

## Gorbachev wants to visit Italy

ROME (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wants to visit Italy but the dates for the trip have not yet been set, Soviet Ambassador Nikolai Lukin said Tuesday. Lukin spoke to reporters after meeting Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and relaying to Mr. Craxi an oral message from Mr. Gorbachev. Mr. Craxi's office said the message concerned international and bilateral issues. It has been widely expected in Italian political circles that Mr. Gorbachev would visit Italy later this year or next. Mr. Lukin, who will be visiting Moscow soon, said Mr. Gorbachev had a "sincere desire" to visit Italy and the two sides must agree on timing. Mr. Lukin said he and Mr. Craxi discussed "clear, firm, unambiguous" bilateral relations and the SALT II treaty between Moscow and Washington.

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## Iraq floats tenders for new pipeline

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq is accepting bids for constructing the second phase of a pipeline across Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea, the oil ministry's undersecretary announced Tuesday. Companies are invited to file tenders to construct the pipeline and storage depots. Issam Abdul Rahim told the Iraqi News Agency (INA). The ministry would select the best offers for the construction, which was expected to begin before the end of this year, the official said. The second phase of the pipeline would increase the output of the trans-Saudi pipeline from the current 500,000 barrels a day to 1,600,000 barrels a day, he said. The first phase of the pipeline was inaugurated last September. Iraq is currently exporting through the operating trans-Saudi pipeline as well as the trans-Turkish pipeline which has a capacity of nine million barrels a day of crude oil. Iraq is already producing 300,000 barrels a day in excess of its OPEC-decreed quota of 1.2 million barrels a day.

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## S. Yemen to 'try' ousted president

ADEN (R) — Former South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Muhammad, ousted after bitter factional fighting in January, is to be tried in his absence for murder, President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas said. Addressing a rally Monday night, Mr. Attas said an indictment was being prepared on "the crimes of Ali Nasser Muhammad and his group of plotters and perpetrators of collective murder." He added: "Their trial is a popular demand." Mr. Nasser Muhammad is believed to be in North Yemen or Ethiopia.

## Top Soviet economic official in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — A top Soviet economic official had talks here on Tuesday with Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kasm after a meeting with President Hafiz Al Assad on Monday which diplomats said suggested his visit had special significance. The Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said Dr. Kasm discussed ways to boost bilateral cooperation with Konstantin Katuchev, chairman of the state board for economic relations, but gave no details of the talks. Mr. Katuchev gave Mr. Assad a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev — the second in a week — shortly after his arrival on Monday.

## Assad meets EC commissioner

DAMASCUS (R) — European Commissioner Claude Cheysson had talks here on Tuesday with President Hafiz Al Assad on Middle East issues and relations between Syria and the European Community (EC). Mr. Cheysson, commissioner in charge of Mediterranean affairs, earlier met Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a for talks which the official news agency SANA said covered economic, cultural and technological cooperation.

## French team begins talks in Tehran

NICOSIA (AP) — A ten-man French negotiating team visiting Iran began talks Tuesday with Iranian officials on the \$1 billion loan dispute between Paris and Tehran, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The French delegation arrived in Tehran Monday night and was met at the airport by Iranian Foreign Ministry officials, IRNA said.

## Algeria, N.Ireland draw; Mexico beats Belgium 2-1

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (R) — Northern Ireland and Algeria drew 1-1 (half-time 1-0) in the World Cup Group D match at the Third of March Stadium here on Tuesday. Scorers: Northern Ireland — Norman Whiteside (6th minute); Algeria — Djamel Zidane (58th minute). Mexico beat Belgium 2-1 (half-time 2-1) in the Group B match in the Aztec Stadium. Scorers: Mexico — Fernando Quirarte (23rd minute); Hugo Sanchez (38th minute); and Belgium — Erwin Vandenberg (45th minute).

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# King optimistic over his efforts to heal Syria-Iraq rift

Mitterrand, Chirac back Jordan's moves

Combined agency despatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein said on Tuesday he was optimistic about the success of his efforts to reconcile Syria and Iraq as a prelude to reunifying Arab ranks before a hoped-for Arab summit.

Talking to reporters after a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand at the Elysee Palace, the King said: "It is our duty to do as much as possible to unite ranks in the Arab Homeland. I am personally optimistic about the success of these efforts."

The King said his talks with President Mitterrand covered Jordanian-French relations and the general situation in the Middle East.

Answering reporters' questions, the King reiterated Jordan's belief that a U.N.-sponsored international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict should be the

forum for peace talks to settle the Palestinian problem. He said he expected practical steps in the direction soon.

He said he believed that the views of many Arab countries were coming closer and they all agreed on the need for holding an international conference on the Middle East attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The King said he regretted the war of camps in Beirut describing it as "a new tragedy in the series of tragedies that we are living through in the Arab World."

The King called on the Palestinian people to crystallise their ideas about the course that should be adopted by those responsible for the people in a way that reflect the people's real aspirations and hopes.

The King also regretted that Jordan's relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) were frozen at the moment and said the "future always holds a new hope."

The King praised France's policy which he described as steady and stable and which has not changed since the rights came in power after the recent elections.

French officials said France appreciated and supported the King's efforts to reconcile Iraq and Syria.

French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who met the King for more than four hours for talks on Monday, said Monday night that France strongly approved of the King's efforts.

King Hussein is the first Middle East leader to visit Paris since Mr. (Continued on page 2)

## Iraqi move to reprieve 10 Egyptian forgers seen as Mubarak's success

CAIRO (R) — Iraq's decision to commute death sentences passed on 10 Egyptian workers for "economic corruption" and passport forgery was seen on Monday as a political victory for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Cairo newspapers prominently carried a statement saying the sentences had been commuted to life imprisonment following Mr. Mubarak's contacts with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Monday night that President Hussein had commuted the sentences in response to a request by Mr. Mubarak "and to express his love to the Egyptian people."

Mr. Mubarak sent Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid to Baghdad with a letter for President Hussein and Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported, telephoned the Iraqi president to discuss the fate of the 10 Egyptians.

The evening newspaper Al Messa said: "Egyptian diplomacy succeeded... not a single Egyptian

will be hanged." It detailed Mr. Mubarak's efforts and quoted Mr. Abdul Meguid as saying: "It was our duty to protect Egyptians working abroad."

Although Iraq and Egypt do not have full diplomatic ties, there are an estimated one million Egyptians working in Iraq, which receives military and moral support from Cairo in its war against Iran.

Iraq, along with most other Arab states, severed ties with Egypt in 1979 after Cairo signed a separate peace treaty with Israel.

Mr. Abdul Meguid, speaking to reporters Monday night after returning from three days of talks in Baghdad, said the incident would not affect bilateral relations. President Hussein's decision reflected the presence of strong ties between our two peoples," he said.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Mubarak's success would improve his political image at home. "The news was a great relief to... Egyptians whose sons work in Iraq," one diplomat said.

## Reagan appeals to Senate on Saudi deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan told congressional leaders that U.S. foreign policy objectives in the Middle East will be seriously undermined if the Senate continues to block an arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

With the Senate set to vote on the issue Thursday, the president welcomed the leaders back from a holiday recess with a renewed appeal for support on the Saudi arms sale.

Mr. Reagan has vetoed a Senate measure rejecting the arms deal. When the Senate recessed for the Memorial Day holiday May 21 without voting on Mr. Reagan's veto, his supporters claimed they had 33 votes, just enough to sustain the president as long as some opponents of the sale were absent.

Mr. Reagan refused to say on Tuesday on whether he has found the 34th vote.

But as the White House opened the start of the usually private leadership meeting to reporters and photographers to permit Mr. Reagan to make his appeal publicly, the president called the sale "indispensable to the execution of our foreign policy."

"I'm counting on you in the Senate for your support," he said.

## Rabin: Hizbollah holding 2 missing Israeli soldiers

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Tuesday two Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon in February are in the hands of the radical Shi'ite Hizbollah guerrilla group.

"We have information that the kidnappers belong to the Hizbollah, but there have been no demands made on us for their release," Mr. Rabin told reporters in the settlement of Kiryat Shmona.

Asked if Israel thought the soldiers were still alive, Mr. Rabin said: "We do not know details on the conditions of the two kidnapped soldiers. From our point of view, they are missing. Nothing else has been proven."

The soldiers were captured on Feb. 17 in a guerrilla ambush in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon. Their capture led to a massive, but futile Israeli search operation inside and north of the "security zone."

At the time, Hizbollah claimed responsibility for capturing the soldiers.

Israel withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon a year ago, but left hundreds of troops and plainclothes agents behind to patrol its "security zone."

Poland offers troops

In London, a Lebanese government adviser said Poland has offered to send troops to join the United Nations peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon.

Georges Dib told a London news conference Lebanon wanted a stronger U.N. presence there to help secure a full withdrawal of Israeli troops.

Mr. Gorbachev's message was described by the Foreign Office as "long and technical" and was later being studied by British experts. British officials were reported to be taking it as a hopeful sign that Mr. Gorbachev sent such a detailed message to Mrs. Thatcher about international cooperation on nuclear power safety.

During Monday's meeting, requested by Mr. Zamyatin, the ambassador and the foreign secretary also discussed the strategic arms limitation treaty (SALT).

Mr. Zamyatin warned that if U.S. President Ronald Reagan went ahead with his threat to abandon the limits on nuclear weapons under the 1979 SALT II agreement, the Soviet Union could not be expected to stand still, a Foreign Office spokesman said.



REGENT HOSTS IFTAR: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, performs Al Maghrebi prayers on Tuesday with officers of the Public Security and General Intelligence departments and the Armed Forces prior to hosting an iftar for the officers (Petra photo)

## Beirut 'war for camps' sparks savage inter-militia street battles

BEIRUT (R) — Buildings blazed and streets shook to shellfire on Tuesday as Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims fought savage street battles described by Beirut Radio as an extension of conflict at Palestinian camps in Beirut's suburbs.

At least eight people were killed and more than 70 wounded in running battles between the Syrian-backed Shi'ite Amal militia and the smaller Sunni "February 6 Movement," hospital and security sources said.

The fighting, the heaviest for six months in west Beirut, dealt a blow to Syrian efforts to end 13 days of conflict at nearby Palestinian refugee camps and threatened to shatter a delicate web of alliances among pro-Syrian Lebanese militias.

"We are hiding in the corridors of the house... we cannot even cross the street to go to the shelter," said one resident as militias attacked rival positions with shoulder-mounted anti-tank grenades, artillery and truck-mounted machineguns.

The fighting overshadowed sporadic clashes at the Sabra, Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camps where official security reports put the toll at 68 killed and 350 hurt in 13 days of fighting between Amal and Palestinian fighters.

Telecommunications Minister Joseph Hachem, a close associate of President Amin Gemayel, appealed for joint Syrian, Saudi and Algerian efforts to end the fighting.

"The Arab countries will not be spared from the terrorist contamination plaguing Lebanon," he told radio stations.

Amal ringed the camps last year in a bid it said to prevent fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, who was expelled from Syria in 1983, from returning to establish bases independent of Syrian control.

"Pro-Arafat men from outside the camps are taking part in the fighting," an Amal source told Reuters, implying Palestinians were backing the Sunnis in their fight with Amal.

There was no independent confirmation of this, but Beirut Radio described the Sunni-Shi'ite fight as "an extension of the camps war."

An Amal statement at noon said the militia had overrun all the Sunni fighters' positions. Witnesses said Amal had taken the Sunni headquarters, but the boom and rattle of heavy weapons continued.

(Continued on page 3)

## Soviet foreign minister to visit Britain in July

LONDON (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze is expected to visit Britain this summer, according to the Foreign Office.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Soviet Ambassador Leonid Zamyatin discussed the proposed visit during a 45-minute meeting on Monday and agreed to consider specific dates "in the near future," the Foreign Office said.

Government sources said the meeting is expected to take place in July.

During the meeting, Mr. Zamyatin delivered a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on contacts with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Earlier on Monday, Mrs. Thatcher's office released a letter from the prime minister to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl welcoming his call for a high-level conference on nuclear safety through the Vienna-based agency.

Mr. Gorbachev's message was described by the Foreign Office as "long and technical" and was later being studied by British experts. British officials were reported to be taking it as a hopeful sign that Mr. Gorbachev sent such a detailed message to Mrs. Thatcher about international cooperation on nuclear power safety.

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## Zamyatin: Soviets did not violate SALT

LONDON (R) — The Soviet ambassador to Britain on Tuesday gave a detailed rebuttal of charges that Moscow has broken the SALT-II strategic arms treaty, breaches cited by President Ronald Reagan as grounds for the U.S. to pull out of the pact.

Envoy Leonid Zamyatin denied the Kremlin had exceeded missile limits laid down by SALT-II, offered data to hamper its verification, and said it was Washington not Moscow that was violating the parallel anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty.

Mr. Reagan said a week ago the United States would no longer feel bound by the 1979 SALT accord and might break out of it later this year because Moscow had cheated on it.

The announcement has sparked a row with Washington's NATO allies, who believe the treaty should still be respected.

Mr. Zamyatin told reporters that, in accordance with SALT, the Soviet Union had reduced its total of strategic nuclear missiles and heavy bombers first 2,400 and then to 2,200, a recent U.S. government study said the true figure was estimated at 2,520 last November 30.

The envoy denied Moscow was breaking a treaty provision banning signals coding that would prevent the other side from checking that test missiles complied with the pact. The treaty does not say how much coding it would take to have this effect.

He said this dispute was "being artificially kept unresolved by the United States." Washington had eluded a Soviet proposal to agree on what information should or should not be coded.

Mr. Zamyatin said a new radar station being built in the Krasnoyarsk area of Siberia was not a violation of the 1972 ABM treaty, as asserted by Washington, because its purpose was to track objects in outer space not protect against missile attack.

The U.S. study disputes this, but Mr. Zamyatin said: "This will be confirmed by specialists on signal characteristics as soon as the station starts working."

He said it was the U.S. which was violating ABM treaty restrictions on the siting of radar stations by building a large new installation in Greenland.

Mr. Zamyatin's remarks came only hours after British Deputy Prime Minister Lord Whitelaw, who has just returned from a visit to the Soviet Union, called on Moscow to disprove U.S. charges it had violated the SALT-II treaty.

## 3 S. African groups call for national strike

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Three of the country's largest anti-apartheid groups issued a joint statement on Tuesday urging South Africans of all races to stay away from jobs and schools June 16, the 10th anniversary of the Soweto uprising.

One of the groups — a coalition of parents, students and teachers called the National Education Crisis Committee — had indicated previously it would call for a three-day stayaway, from June 16 through June 18.

The committee's endorsement of a one-day general strike lessens the chance for friction between those seeking to return to work or school on June 17 and those supporting a longer stayaway.

Also signing the statement were the United Democratic Front, a nationwide coalition of anti-apartheid groups, and the predominantly black Congress of South African Trade Unions, the country's largest labour federation.

Meanwhile, residents reported renewed stoning and burning of cars and buses in Soweto, where tensions have risen in recent days amid calls for a rent boycott starting July 1 to press for a range of demands.

On Monday evening, police used tear gas to break up a crowd.

## W. German firm to restart controversial nuclear reactor

BONN (R) — The operators of an experimental nuclear reactor engulfed in controversy over a radiation leak a week after the Chernobyl disaster said they would switch it back on Tuesday in apparent defiance of West German authorities.

The plant, near the town of Hamm in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, was shut down after news of the May 4 leak became public last Friday and State Economics Minister Reimut Jochimsen has said it should stay closed until inquiries have been concluded.

But the operators, United Electricity Works of Westphalia (UEW), said they planned to reactivate the 300 megawatt high-temperature reactor on Tuesday and threatened court action against Mr. Jochimsen's ministry if it stood in their way.

The threat was the latest gambit in a bitter stand-off between UEW and Mr. Jochimsen, a Social Democrat (SPD), in which both sides acknowledge that the leak

was not dangerous but have accused each other of a cover-up.

Most newspaper commentaries forecast that Mr. Jochimsen would emerge the loser in the battle, which has developed into a major issue in West Germany in the atmosphere of alarm generated by the April 26 Chernobyl accident (See page 8).

UEW says it informed a senior expert in Mr. Jochimsen's ministry of the leak on May 8 despite assertions by Mr. Jochimsen to the contrary. UEW Director Karlheinz Portugal has accused the minister of "scandalous treatment of the facts."

The anti-nuclear Greens party have demanded Mr. Jochimsen's resignation.

A spokesman for Mr. Jochimsen's ministry said officials were discussing their next move in the case. He confirmed that the expert concerned was holidaying in Italy and had been tracked down there by the international police authority, Interpol.

## Israeli troops wound Arab boy in Balata

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli troops shot and wounded a Palestinian boy on Tuesday during anti-Israeli protests in the occupied West Bank, an army spokesman said.

Israeli troops clamped a curfew on the Balata refugee camp near Nablus after opening fire on the demonstrators who hurled stones at Israeli soldiers patrolling the area, the spokesman said.

Palestinian sources said the 13-year-old boy was shot during a protest marking the fourth anniversary of Israel's invasion of Lebanon which began on June 6, 1982 (See page 2).

## Klibi in Damascus

DAMASCUS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi arrived in Damascus on Tuesday on the fifth leg of a tour aimed at rallying support for a proposed Arab summit, official sources said.

Mr. Klibi arrived from Iraq after earlier visiting Morocco, Jordan and Kuwait in an effort to fix a date for a gathering of Arab foreign ministers to prepare for a full summit.

In Baghdad, Mr. Klibi was quoted as saying the current dialogue between some Arab capitals was "positive" and would contribute toward Arab cooperation. He did not elaborate.

He said he hoped his tour would find "common ground" on which Arabs could meet.

King Hussein, now in France before trips to the United States and Britain, has been shuttling between Iraq and Syria in an effort to reconcile the two Arab states and remove obstacles to the summit.

## J.T. ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jordan Times is happy to announce that its offices have now been relocated in Al Ra'i building. Our new telephone numbers are the same as those of our sister newspaper: 667171-6 and 670141-4. Telephone numbers 666265 and 666320 are no longer in use.



# Gulf Arab states seek local military volunteers

By Dina Matar  
Reader

**BAHRAIN —** The Gulf Arab states, heavy spenders on military hardware, are encouraging their nationals to enter the services as winds of uncertainty and change sweep the area.

With relatively small populations, most of the oil-rich countries have a sizeable foreign element in their armed forces, recruiting mainly from countries like Pakistan, Jordan, North Yemen and Turkey.

Some of the states offer substantial inducements to their nationals to sign up for a military career, including high pay and welfare and housing benefits.

The dramatic fall in oil income and the long-running Iran-Iraq war, which has spilled over into attacks on Gulf shipping, has added a sense of urgency to the appeals.

Saudi Arabia, which has spent many billions of dollars on American and European weaponry and now faces strong congressional opposition to further purchases from the United States, has stepped up calls to Saudi youths to join the armed forces.

"We urge our young men to join the armed forces and carry out the sacred duty of defending the country," Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz told graduates at a military academy recently.

Diplomatic sources in the region say Riyadh will continue efforts to recruit educated Saudis to handle its huge arsenal of replacement foreign fighters in the oil boom days of the 1970s.

Saudi Arabia, with an estimated population of around 10 million, has 52,500 men in the regular forces and a further 10,000 in the National Guard, according to the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

Diplomatic sources estimate the number of foreigners, including American, British and French training advisers, at up to 7,000.

The kingdom has no call-up, and diplomats say there is an immediate idea to conscript nationals into the services. But Deputy Defence Minister Prince

Abdul Rahman bin Abdul Aziz gave some clue to official thinking last month when he said there were plans to introduce military classes at schools "under directives from King Fahd".

About one-third of the population are of school age.

Of Saudi Arabia's five allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), founded in 1981 as an economic and defence grouping, only Kuwait has a conscription programme.

The other GCC members are the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, Bahrain and Qatar.

A 1978 law in Kuwait introduced a two-year military service programme for males between 18 and 30 years. It also provides for the training of women.

Conscripts in Kuwait, the closest GCC state to the Gulf war, remain on reserve until aged 40 and are liable for annual refresher call-ups.

But officials say there are no plans to step up recruitment, and women have not been called up despite an Iranian drive in February which brought the Gulf war front to within sight of Kuwaiti territory.

The size of the armed forces, whose hardware includes Mirage warplanes, missile-armed patrol boats and armoured vehicles, is estimated by the IISS at 12,000.

Kuwait has advisers from Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union, from which it has purchased weaponry. Pakistanis also serve in areas traditionally shunned by Kuwaitis, who constitute only 40 per cent of the 1.7 million population.

In the UAE, a federation of seven emirates, the appointed parliament of Abu Dhabi has recommended that all nationals between the age of 18 and 30 receive military training.

The Executive Council and ruler of Abu Dhabi have still to approve the move, which would not affect the other emirates.

Television, meanwhile, runs regular spots to attract UAE nationals — only 31 per cent out of a population of 1.17 million — to join the 43,000-strong armed forces. Diplomats say most military personnel are foreigners of some 20 different nationalities, including several hundred who arrived from Morocco last year.

In Oman, efforts are being made to "nmanize" the armed forces, which have swelled to 21,500 men from 14,500 in 1980.

Banking sources say contracts for non-Omani personnel in the forces are not being renewed, partly also because of the fall in oil revenues due to lower world prices.

As part of reduced defence spending, delivery of eight Tornado warplanes from Britain, worth £250 million (\$380 million), has been delayed four years to 1992.

There are no major moves to press the recruitment of nationals in the two other GCC states, Bahrain and Qatar, with armed forces strength of 2,800 and 6,000 respectively.

These two Gulf neighbours are currently at loggerheads over Qatar's military occupation in late April of a disputed reef in the waters separating them.

Diplomatic sources said their total combined population of nearly 700,000 people, of whom half are estimated to be non-nationals, mitigated against further increasing local recruitment.

In all, the GCC countries, which agreed in 1984 on a joint reaction force against external threat, can field up to 150,000 men — compared with two million by Iran across the Gulf.

Diplomatic sources say the naval and air strength of the six countries is adequate for coastal patrols and aerial surveillance of the Gulf waters. Added to this are four U.S. AWACS (Early Warning and Airborne Control System) aircraft, on loan to Saudi Arabia under a 1981 agreement.

## Iran mounts new mobilisation drive

**TEHRAN (R) —** Iran has opened a new mobilisation drive in the Gulf war, asking volunteers to stay longer at the front and extended military service for conscripts, parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said yesterday.

Islamic Republic newspaper quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying the drive was in response to Iraq's new strategy of cross-border attacks and efforts by Baghdad's supporters to weaken Iran.

"We have to prepare ourselves for the new situation, and that means to train volunteers and popular forces, and to provide commanders with enough trained forces both for defence and attack," he told Revolutionary Guards commanders.

Government organisations had been ordered to help in the drive with men and material, "even if

they have to temporarily close down," the newspaper quoted him as saying.

Mr. Rafsanjani, spokesman of Iran's Supreme Defence Council, said the council had decided to add two months to the two-year service of current conscripts, while volunteers serving three months at the front were being asked to stay an extra month.

All provinces should be ready to "despatch forces on a large scale" from next week, he added.

Tehran Radio said 2,000 volunteers left the capital for the battlefronts Monday.

A high Iranian offensive last February resulted in the capture of much of the Fan peninsula in southern Iraq, and a top military commander called four days ago for an even bigger mobilisation than was mounted then.

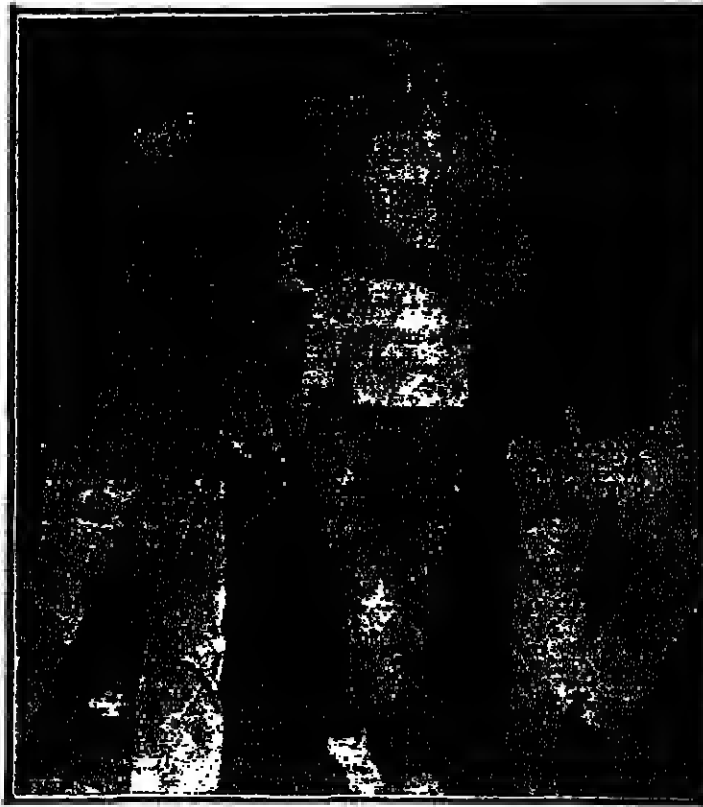
"When we achieved that bri-

liant victory at Fao with a force of 150,000 against 700,000 Iraqi troops, can we not demolish the Iraqi army completely with 10 times that number?" Islamic Republic quoted Revolutionary Guards Commander Mohsen Rezaei as saying.

Speaking at a press conference, Rezaei stressed the need for Iran to change "from a war of resistance to an offensive war," the paper reported.

More than one million fighters would be sent to the front in the year which started on March 21, he said.

"We do not need modern aircraft and advanced tanks. We can easily defeat the enemy if we can field a force four times their numbers and armed with light and medium weapons," another newspaper, Ettelaat, quoted him as saying.



Israeli soldiers take away one of the two Palestinian commandos who were killed in the hands of the Israelis after the hijacking of a bus to Gaza in 1984.

## Sudan to keep pact with Libya

**ABU DHABI (R) —** Sudan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sharif Al Hindi said in an interview Tuesday his new government would maintain a military pact with Libya signed by the previous transitional government.

He told the Abu Dhabi daily Al-Itihad in New York, where he was attending a U.N. General Assembly meeting, the agreement would not change and Khartoum would maintain full diplomatic relations with Tripoli.

"We did not cancel the military agreement with Libya," he said, "and the accord will not change."

Relations between the two neighbouring North African countries warmed considerably after an army coup last year overthrew

former Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri. Libya promised to provide Sudan with oil and military support.

Mr. Hindi, part of a new civilian cabinet named last month, said his government wanted to promote ties with the Soviet Union which were also strained during Numeiri's rule.

But he said relations with Moscow would not be promoted at the expense of any other country such as the United States, a close ally.

Mr. Hindi said he would soon be touring Arab countries to appeal for aid to rebuild Sudan's shattered economy. "We expect our brothers in Arab countries to support Sudan to enable it to execute its development programme," he added.

## UAE restricts medical trips

**ABU DHABI (R) —** Ailing citizens of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) must get cabinet permission in future for their state-funded medical trips abroad, the official Emirates News Agency WAM reported.

The UAE, which the World Bank says has the world's highest per capita income, spent millions of dollars a year on foreign travel and medical costs for the patient and two relatives, usually to Egypt or Europe.

WAM said the council of ministers decided Monday night to require cabinet permission for such trips as from Tuesday.

Health officials say the UAE now has its own adequate medical services since construction of several new hospitals.

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## Foreigners attend anniversary of Israel's Lebanon invasion

**BEIRUT (R) —** Eleven Westerners braved fighting in Beirut Tuesday and flew in to attend events marking the fourth anniversary of Israel's 1982 invasion.

The sources earlier reported fierce street battles in mainly Muslim west Beirut had forced the foreigners, including British, American and French journalists, to delay the visit.

The Westerners flew in from Cyprus to the international airport in suburbs where Shi'ite Muslims and Palestinians have been fighting at refugee camps for almost two weeks.

Scores of Shi'ite militiamen

escorted the participants to a hotel in the kidnap-plagued city north of the camps where Sunni-Shi'ite fighting erupted Monday night, the sources said.

The visitors are due to attend conferences organised jointly by the Information Ministry and the Arab League on the subject of the invasion and its consequences.

Israel, which invaded with the declared aim of rooting out Palestinian commandos, withdrew most of its forces last June but maintains about 1,000 troops in a self-declared "security zone" in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

## Scandals shake Israeli institutions

**TEL AVIV (AP) —** From the kibbutzim collective farms to the secret service, some of Israel's most hallowed institutions have been embroiled in controversy in recent months.

Some observers see the controversies as symptoms of a society struggling for modernisation. Others blame the state of scandals on a second generation of Israeli leaders "who lack the vision of the state's founding fathers."

The government frequently has responded by appointing blue-ribbon panels, a practice almost commonplace since 1973 when the Agranat Commission was established to determine why Israel's army was caught off guard in the 1973 war.

"This is a young society, still in search of norms of behaviour and government," said Hanna Herzog, a sociologist at Tel Aviv University. "All the commissions of inquiry and the self-doubts are reflections of this search."

Ms. Herzog said in an interview that since the Agranat Commission, "all official inquiries have unearthed facts, rather than buried them as they once had."

Meir Pail, a military historian who served in the elite pre-state Commando Force known as the Palmach, argued that more forceful leadership would have avoided many of the scandals, especially those involving the banks and intelligence community.

"The leaders are more interested in personal survival than in taking the state to new horizons," said Pail.

"Maybe we are doomed to face mediocrity in the second generation of independence."

The latest scandal involves

Avraham Shalom, director of the Shin Bet Secret Service, who covered up the killing of two Palestinians who hijacked a bus in April 1984.

The very existence of the counterintelligence organisation was not public knowledge until the 1960s, and the name of its director is still supposed to be a state secret. Israelis, who by and large view the Shin Bet with near reverence for its success in preventing terrorism, expressed shock to hear the name of the Shin Bet and its director mentioned on the radio.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, seeking to avoid a police investigation that would expose intelligence-gathering techniques and possibly implicate senior politicians, is seeking a new commission to investigate the latest scandal, the daily Yediot Ahronot reported.

The deaths have already been probed by two commissions, one civilian and one military. Both ended inconclusively.

Other recent controversies in Israel have involved:

Banks: The directors of the state-owned Bank of Israel and the nation's four largest private banks were blamed by a judicial commission for manipulation that led to an October 1983 stock market crash. The collapse wiped out \$2 billion in public savings, and the panel demanded the resignation of the bank chiefs in April. Three bank chiefs resigned, and Bank of Israel Director Moshe Mandelbaum is reportedly ready to step down soon.

Farms: The United Kibbutz Movement, the umbrella organisation for most of the country's communal farms, lost an est-

imated \$350 million in stock and money market speculations. The disclosure last fall sent shock waves through the kibbutzim, traditionally bastions of Socialism, and undermined their image as symbols of self-sacrifice and hard work.

The army: A parliament committee in May began a probe of allegations by an army colonel, Emmanuel Wald, of deteriorating military standards. A report Wald prepared for the army said the nation's generals were largely unprofessional and failed to learn from mistakes made in the Lebanon War. Wald made his accusations public after claiming the army high command tried to conceal his findings.

Intelligence: A Defence Ministry unit known as "Lehem," a Hebrew acronym for the Scientific Liaison Bureau, was disbanded after being caught spying on the United States, Israel's major source of military and economic aid.

The authors of major policy failures, however, have often lingered in office.

Haim Bar Lev is minister of police and a senior member of the Labour Party even though, as a general, his "Bar Lev Line" along the Suez Canal was overrun in a matter of hours by the Egyptians in 1973.

Ariel Sharon of the Likud Bloc remains in the cabinet even though a commission forced his removal as defence minister for failing to prevent Paganist militiamen from massacring Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps near Beirut in September 1982.

## U.S. expects Israel's 'full cooperation' in spy case

**WASHINGTON (USIA) —** The Reagan administration "expects full cooperation" from Israel in the investigation of allegations that Israel has been directing a large spy operation against the United States, said Edward Djerejian, White House deputy press secretary, on Monday.

Djerejian said at a White House news briefing that "an espionage against the United States is extremely serious" and allegations "will be pursued with great vigour" until the matter is resolved.

Pressed on the matter of Israeli cooperation and whether the administration was satisfied, the spokesman said he could not "characterise it further" than saying the governments were in contact.

Earlier, when questioned about allegations of an Israeli spy ring operating in the United States, Djerejian declined to comment on the charges against Jonathan Pollard. Asked what effect the allegations of a spy network will have on relations with Israel, he replied: "It's a matter of litigation. We have to determine what the facts are and what the judicial process comes up with before we can draw any conclusions such as you're suggesting."

He told a questioner that the State Department was working with the Justice Department "to ensure full enforcement of U.S. laws."

He said he would not have any

comment about the Pollard case when asked about allegations that Israel had lied to the United States about the ramifications of the case. Pollard is a civilian analyst for the U.S. navy who is charged with passing classified documents to Israel; according to news reports last month, he was part of a much larger Israeli spy operation against the United States.

At the State Department, spokesman Charles Redman declined to comment on the specifics of the case against Pollard, but he repeated the U.S. position that "we would expect full cooperation from the government of Israel until the case is closed."

"We continue to be in touch with the Israelis who have promised full cooperation," he added.

The Christian Science Monitor reported on Monday that an Israeli air force officer, who American officials believe was involved in the Pollard case, may be extradited from Israel soon "to present evidence" sought by the United States.

Reports have said Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other government officials knew of the network's operations.

Unnamed Justice Department sources told the Monitor that the arrest of an Israeli air force officer who travels frequently to the U.S. was imminent.

## King voices optimism

(Continued from page 1)

Mitterrand, a Socialist, was forced into an uneasy "cobination" with a right-wing cabinet headed by Mr. Chirac.

The King, who is accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, is due to leave France on Wednesday for Washington where he will meet President Ronald Reagan on June 9 before going to London.

King Hussein is also accompanied by Prime Minister Zaki Rafai and Foreign Minister Taha Al Masri. They attended the King's talks with Mr. Chirac.

Also present at the talks from the French side were Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond and Defence Minister Andre Giraud.

Speaking to reporters after the talks, Mr. Chirac said: "We approve strongly of the King's initiatives and particularly his actions to reinforce links between certain countries of the region, notably Syria and Iraq."

A spokeswoman for the Elysee Palace on Tuesday described King Hussein's visit to Paris as one of his annual visits and said that Jordan and France have distinguished relationship.

She said King Hussein has accepted an invitation from the president to pay an official visit to France in 1987 and a date for the visit will be fixed later on.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	
<b>PROGRAMME ONE</b>	18:05 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Koran	18:30 Arab Music
15:10 Religious programme	19:00 News Desk
15:20 Cartoons	19:30 Date with a Star
16:00 Cartoons	20:00 Evening Show
16:30 Documentary	21:00 News Summary
16:50 Arabic series	21:40 Evening Show Continued
17:50 Religious programme	22:00 News Summary
20:00 Arabic series and Ramadan puzzle	23:00 Evening Show Continued
20:20 News in Arabic	23:40 News Headlines
20:40 Arabic Series	24:00 Close Down
21:30 Religious programme	
22:20 Arabic series	
23:10 Arabic Series	
24:00 Varieties	
00:50 World Football Cup: Denmark vs. Scotland	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:30 Documentaries	
19:00 Varieties	
19:30 News in French	
19:45 Aujourd'hui en France	
19:50 News in Hebrew	
20:30 Documentary (Dialogue)	
21:00 World Football Cup: Iraq vs. Uruguay	
21:45 News in English	
22:00 World Football Cup: Second half	
22:45 The Brief	
RADIO JORDAN 8.5 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9.60 KHz. SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 Newsdesk	
08:00 Morning Show	
10:00 News Summary	
10:45 Morning Show Continued	
11:00 Pop Session	
12:00 News Summary	
12:45 Pop Session Contd.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:45 Pop Session	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:10 News in Arabic	
14:15 The Young Sound	
15:00 Concert Hour	
16:00 News Summary	
16:05 Instrumentals	
16:30 Old Favorites	
17:00 Jordan Weekly	
17:30 Pop Session	
18:00 News Summary	

## WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
<b>EXHIBITIONS</b>	
"Caricatures from the Federal Republic Germany at the Goethe Institute (until June 5)	
"Art exhibition of Islamic modern art by Bassem Barakat at the International Hotel (until June 7)	
"A panoramic exhibition of the French song at the French Cultural Centre (until June 4)	
<b>CIRCUS</b>	
"Romanian Circus daily at Al Hussein Sports City.	
<b>THEATRE</b>	
"Le mine pradet" at 9:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	
<b>VIDEO</b>	
"Dance" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	
<b>CULTURAL CENTRES</b>	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel: 6610267	
American Centre 644371	
British Centre 641520	
French Cultural Centre 637009	
Goethe Institute 641999	
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre 630409	
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777	
Haya Arts Centre 661915	
Honora Youth City 641793	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.A. 644251	
Amman Municipal Library 637111	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
<b>MUSEUMS</b>	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Nabata and Jewish (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 651760.	
<b>PRAYER TIMES</b>	
05:46 Fajr	
07:28 Sunrise	
12:34 Dhuhr	
16:15 Asr	
19:41 Maghrib	
21:20 Isha	

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

# QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (05) 3200-1, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

07:15 London, Larnaca (BA)  
08:15 Athens (RJ)  
08:20 Karachi (PK)  
09:45 Dhahran (RJ)  
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)  
10:30 Sam's (RJ)  
10:45 Jeddah (RJ)  
10:45 Cairo (RJ)  
10:50 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
11:35 Cairo (MS)  
11:45 Beirut (2K)  
13:40 Bahrain (GF)  
14:35 Kuwait (KU)  
16:18 Jeddah (SV)  
16:45 Tripoli (LA)  
17:25 Larnaca (RJ)  
18:00 Cairo (RJ)  
18:20 Paris, Damascus (AF)  
18:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
18:45 Riyadh (RJ)  
18:45 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)

19:20 London, Belgrade (RJ)  
19:25 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)  
19:35 Beirut (ME)  
19:45 Istanbul (RJ)  
19:45 Bangkok (RJ)  
21:00 Damascus (RJ)  
21:00 Baghdad (IA)  
21:45 Damascus (PK)  
01:30 Beirut (RJ)

## DEPARTURES

06:00 Dhahran (RJ)  
06:20 Frankfurt (LH)  
07:00 Athens (RJ)  
07:40 Damascus, Athens (RJ)  
08:10 Larnaca, London (RJ)  
08:20 Athens, Rome (RJ)  
09:35 Damascus (RJ)  
11:30 Damascus (RJ)  
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)  
12:30 Cairo (RJ)  
12:45 Athens, Zurich (RJ)  
12:45 Larnaca, Zurich (RJ)  
13:00 Beirut (RJ)  
13:30 Beirut (RJ)

13:45 Istanbul (RJ)  
14:00 Larnaca (RJ)  
15:00 Doha (RJ)  
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)  
17:00 Jeddah (SV)  
17:45 Kuwait (RJ)  
20:30 Kuwait (RJ)  
21:15 Jeddah (RJ)  
21:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
21:30 Baghdad (RJ)  
21:40 Dhahran (RJ)

## MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Hyundai  
— Kota Wizarwan  
— Rodonyan  
— Borouk Eagle

Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 622234-9 at your service.

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Even though there will be a drop in temperature, it will be relatively warm with northeasterly moderate winds; sometimes, it will be dusty in the desert area. In Aqaba, it will be heavy, with northerly moderate winds and calm sea.

Amman 17/31  
Aqaba 22/36  
Deserts 20/36  
Jordan Valley 21/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 26 per cent.

## MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates  
Local sell/buy rates in file

Belgian franc 75.2/ 75.8  
Dutch guilder 136.4/ 136.4  
French franc 48.2/ 49.3  
Italian lire 22.4/ 22.9  
Japanese yen (100) 205.1/ 208.7  
Swedish crown 48.2/ 49.1  
Swiss franc 185.3/ 189.5  
U.S. dollar 324.9/ 334.1  
U.S. dollar mark 353.1/ 358.1  
— British pound 151.2/ 151.2



## Decree approves new law for public, private roads

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving a new law on roads and giving the Ministry of Public Works full responsibility for all affairs pertaining to roads outside the boundaries of municipalities and village councils in the Kingdom.

In accordance with the law, roads will be classified under the following categories: main roads 40 metres wide, secondary roads 30 metres wide and single roads 20 metres wide. Under the law, the Ministry of Public Works becomes the sole body for issuing regulations and specifications for road signs and commercial and their amendments whenever necessary.

The ministry is also entrusted with defining all specifications about any types of roads in the Kingdom, the types of vehicles that can use them and safety measures on roads. The ministry has also been empowered to open any private road through land whose owner or owners request the minister of public works to open such a road. For these private roads, land owners should pay the cost of the total cost to cover expenses for expertise and technical procedures. Once the road has been opened the Department of Land Registration and Surveys must be informed so that the new road can appear on maps, according to the new law.

## Cabinet studying new routes for highway, ring road

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet is looking into a study presented by the Public Works Ministry to alter a planned road between Jerash and Amman and a related ring-road, according to an official at the Prime Ministry.

The official said that work on the road, which is estimated to cost about JD 27 million, is due to start after the cabinet's final endorsement of the new alternative.

Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh has presented the new proposal to the cabinet for reassessment, according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Sawt Al Shaab.

According to the new study, the road will be altered to branch in more directions and will include the Irbid-Nu'emeh triangle and Thaghet Asfour.

The second phase of the new project, according to the study, will start from Thaghet Asfour to the Zarka Basin, a distance of 17

kilometres while the third phase will extend from the Zarka Basin to Baqa'a refugee camp, a distance of 15 kilometres.

The Irbid-Huwara, Ramtha triangle to Nu'ameh will be the fourth part of the new scheme. The Ministry of Public Works has also conducted a final assessment of a ring road round Amman in order to avoid crossing farms in Al Jizeh. The change would mean keeping Yajouz road open instead of having to alter one of its lanes.

The study also recommended that the ring road be connected with the Zarka diversion project which is currently under construction.

The report in Sawt Al Shaab said that a previous study, conducted by two engineering firms, has estimated the alternative for both projects to be JD 65 million.

## Muasher bans importation of live cattle for breeding, milk

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Muasher has issued an order banning the importation of live cattle for breeding or producing milk. The order goes into effect immediately and until further notice, the minister's statement said.

"The decision was taken in the higher national interest and in the light of the effects of nuclear radiation, resulting from the Chernobyl accident in the Soviet Union, and the possibility that cows might be contaminated with

radiation," the statement said. Jordan has been carrying out thorough tests on imported meat and foodstuffs from Eastern Europe since the day the Chernobyl nuclear accident was reported.

The government has also requested Eastern European exporters of meat and other foodstuffs to supply certificates signed by the concerned authorities in the country of origin certifying that the products are free from any nuclear contamination.

## Airlines discuss lost luggage

AMMAN (Petra) — World airlines incur a total annual loss of \$600 million which is paid as compensation to passengers for loss of baggage and other administrative procedures, such as following up contacts and for communications, and this adversely affects the air transport industry in general, according to Mr. Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz, the director general of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines.

Mr. Balqaz was addressing a week-long meeting by a committee representing various airlines operating in Jordan who gathered at the Queen Alia International Airport to discuss means of minimising the loss of passengers' luggage during travel.

He said that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) is concerned about the current recession in world air transportation operations and its adverse effects on the airline industry in general. Mr. Balqaz went on to say that in addition to the rising cost of operations, airlines are continually forced to compensate passengers for lost luggage, damage to property or theft.

Mr. Balqaz said that delivering baggage in a safe condition to its destinations is one of the most important tasks of an airline because the loss of baggage means the loss of the passenger as a customer.

IATA's committee, he said, have worked out a programme for improving baggage delivery and the programme which included training and seminars, has proved very useful.

Addressing the committee meeting was Mr. Qaisar Samadi, the committee's chairman who said that arrangements have been taken at the Queen Alia International Airport to spread awareness among various employees to ensure the safe delivery of luggage to passengers.

The purpose of holding the week-long panel is to discuss improvements in services at the airport and means to help passengers adhere to airline suggestions such as sticking tags and labels to bags and suitcases to ensure safe arrival of their luggage.

Another speaker was Akel Bilalji, Alia's vice president for marketing and passenger services, who spoke about the various problems encountered by airlines to ensure the safe arrival of luggage



Housing Corporation Director General Shafiq Zawaideh and Corporation officials conduct a drawing of lots on Tuesday to select beneficiaries to be allotted housing units at the Abu Nuseir Complex (Petra photo)

## Corporation starts distributing Abu Nuseir housing units

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Corporation Tuesday distributed 280 housing units at the Abu Nuseir housing estate near Jubeiha to their owners and the corporation's director general, Mr. Shafiq Zawaideh, said that the units will be ready for occupancy at the beginning of the coming month.

The distribution took place at the corporation's headquarters in Amman where Mr. Zawaideh supervised the drawing of lots for assigning homes in the M/51, M/51 and M/54 models of the units at Abu Nuseir.

In a speech welcoming the beneficiaries, Mr. Zawaideh said that they will benefit from the integrated services at the housing estate. The Housing Corporation will gradually distribute the other types of units to the rest of the beneficiaries, Mr. Zawaideh added.

He said that an agreement has been reached with the Health Ministry to open a health clinic and another agreement has been concluded with the Public Transport Corporation to operate a regular bus service for the benefit of the residents at the housing estate. The units will be in operation as soon as the estate is inhabited by residents and the schools within the estate will open their doors to students as of the coming scholastic year, Mr. Zawaideh pointed out.

The Housing Corporation's director said that the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has provided 420 telephone lines and more will be installed in the estate, probably in the coming year. He said that a wastewater treatment plant and the

sewerage system have been tested and both are ready for use. Mr. Zawaideh asked the beneficiaries to call at the water and electricity authorities to have their homes connected to the networks.

Earlier reports said that only 1,000 beneficiaries have completed procedures and have paid the advance fee of 10 per cent of the total cost of the units. Al-Dustour Arabic daily newspaper said in a report that the remaining 2,400 units will be sold to the public if no more government employees come forward requesting ownership. The report said that commercial stores will be offered for rent at the rate of JD 25 per square metre and will also be offered to the public sector.

Owners of the Abu Nuseir units cannot let them or sell them without prior approval from the Housing Corporation and through cooperation with a supervising committee in charge of the estate. Mr. Zawaideh was quoted as saying earlier in an interview with Al-Rai Arabic daily newspaper, He said beneficiaries change the structure of the building, build or pull down any part of the building in accordance with the corporation's regulations and in implementation of a contract signed by the beneficiary.

According to Mr. Zawaideh, the corporation will invite members of the public, army personnel and expatriates to apply for units at Abu Nuseir. The beneficiaries will be paying for the cost of the units in instalments but they are not paying for the cost of the infrastructure and the laying of water, telephone, and electricity networks and the wastewater treatment plant.

## Plans for poultry firm move ahead

AMMAN (J.T.) — Practical steps are underway for establishing a share-holding company with five government institutions acquiring equity in its JD 5 million capital.

The projected company will take charge of organising the poultry sector and will set up five poultry slaughter houses around the country, in accordance with a cabinet decision taken in the second half of last month. The cabinet based its decision on recommendations submitted by a ministerial committee which recommended that the company be a joint public and private sector venture and that it should be set up as soon as possible.

According to the committee's recommendations, the company's capital will be shared by the Social Security Corporation SSC (JD 1.5 million), the Pension Fund (JD 1.5 million), the Ministry of Supply (JD 100,000), the Agricultural Credit Corporation ACC (JD 500,000) and the Industrial Development Bank IDB (JD 500,000) in addition to the private sector.

A meeting was held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade to discuss measures to be taken for the registration of the new company. The under secretaries of the Ministries of Supply, Municipal and Rural Affairs and Agriculture and the directors of the Pension Fund, the SCC, the ACC and the IDB discussed steps to be taken for the formation of a constituent assembly, the amendment of laws to permit the company to operate and the subject of private shareholding.

### Feasibility study

The cabinet earlier entrusted a ministerial committee chaired by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Hmoud to conduct a feasibility study on the company and to report to the government. The committee included as members, Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dalqhan.

The government entrusted the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment to take steps to allow the company to set up five slaughter houses in the country and to contact various municipal councils to urge them to acquire shares in the company's capital. The Ministry of Industry and Trade has been entrusted with the task of floating tenders for setting up the slaughter houses and to undertake other measures to bring the company into being.

## Haj Hassan leaves for ILO conference

AMMAN (Petra) — One of the main topics on the agenda of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) during its 72nd meeting in Geneva will be the general conditions of Arab workers under Israeli rule and Israel's arbitrary measures against Arab labour unions, violations of human rights in addition to the negative effects of Israeli settlements on Arab inhabitants, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan said here Tuesday.

The minister was speaking shortly before his departure for Geneva to take part in the ILO conference, opening Wednesday, where he will deliver a speech to the delegates.

He said that the ILO conference will discuss a number of subjects including a report by the ILO's general director on unemployment and the condition of workers in general in addition to current ILO programmes.

The minister said that the ILO director's report will include a review of the bad effects of racial discrimination policies practised in South Africa and he added that the ILO plans to support countries' measures aimed at creating jobs. The organisation will also

review means of helping developing nations to set up their own industries, Mr. Haj Hassan continued.

Mr. Haj Hassan said that his speech to the conference will cover Jordan's policies on employment and workers and Jordan's stand with regard to the Arab region and the negative social and economic effects of the on-going Gulf war.

The minister is accompanied by a delegation grouping representatives of the Ministry of Labour, the Amman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions and the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Municipal services to continue over 'Eid

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh said Tuesday that the 30 per cent of the municipality's workers will resume work on the first day of 'Eid Al Fitr while 50 per cent of workers will report in on the second day. The rate of employment will be 100 per cent on the third day, said Mr. Rawabdeh, who called on directors of affiliated departments to keep their offices manned by health inspectors and other employees during the 'Eid.

### CSCC to remain open Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Service Consumers Corporation (CSCC) will maintain its services in all its branches throughout the Kingdom during the day, preceding 'Eid Al Fitr feast, which is expected to fall on Saturday. The corporation's director, Mr. Jamil Farah, said Tuesday that the CSCC holiday for the feast will be four days.

### GUVS thanks students for raising funds

IRBID (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Tuesday distributed awards to students in community colleges and schools who took part in the knock on the door campaign which collected funds to build the Amal Cancer Centre. GUVS has also sent letters of appreciation to schools and community colleges who contributed towards making the campaign a success.

## 'War for camps' spills

(Continued from page 1)

tinued to echo throughout streets deserted of traffic.

"Shells and bullets are flying everywhere and rescue teams have not been able to determine the number of casualties," a security source said.

People were trapped in one of several buildings set ablaze and shells smashed into west Beirut's Muslim orphanage, where children cowered.

"The lives of more than 2,000 children are in danger... we appeal to you in the name of humanity," an orphanage statement said.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam by telephone to "exert pressure to stop the clashes," Beirut Radio reported.

Syria has backed half a dozen shaky security plans to end five previous bouts of Amal-Palestinian fighting at the camps over the past year, but has failed to find a lasting formula.

Other Damascus-sponsored plans to curb violence in Beirut over the same period, have also come to naught.

In its latest attempt, Syria has sent its head of military intelligence in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, for talks with Amal leader Nabih Berri and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, who has good relations with Palestinian groups.

The talks failed to ease rocket and machine gunbattles at the camps, and within hours Shi'ite and Sunni gunmen were swarming onto the west Beirut streets firing high velocity assault rifles and anti-tank weapons.

Witnesses said PSP militiamen, who clashed only two days ago with Amal, and radical Shi'ites of the Hizbollah (Party of God) appeared to be staying out of the west Beirut fight.

An Amal statement said the battle began with the kidnapping and killing of two Shi'ite vegetable vendors by Sunnis. There was no independent confirmation of the report.

## Bedouin craft of weaving shifts from the desert to towns

By Josephine Zamaniri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "So many aspects of bedouin life were governed by weaving," comments Mrs. Widad Kavar, an Amman-based author on weaving and embroidery. "His tent, his rugs, storage bags, even his horse and camel packs were all the products of the loom," she adds.

The ancient craft of weaving in Jordan was deeply rooted in bedouin tradition, although in later years the loom was adapted to a town lifestyle. Now weaving skills have shifted from their bedouin basis and rugs are generally produced for the local tourist market or for export.

"For a bedouin tribesman, a valued attribute in a wife was the ability to weave," says Mrs. Kavar, "as it was the housewife's expertise in weaving which created the bedouin environment". Using the ground loom, which for unknown centuries has been an integral part of bedouin infrastructure, the women of the clan wove tents, rugs, bags, cushions and so on in an almost ubiquitous form throughout the Arab bedouin lands.

### Ground looms

The ground loom is a simple weaving tool; its compactness makes it ideally suited to the bedouin lifestyle as it can be easily packed and taken on to the next campsite. The ground loom, which is generally set up outside the tent, consists basically of two logs of wood stretched about ten feet apart (or the desired length of the rug). Threads are then wrapped evenly back and forth between the logs or warp rods. A stick across the middle separates the two warps.

The ground loom can be operated by one two or even three women on particularly wide rugs. For average sized pieces, two women sit either side of the work and pass the horizontal thread backwards and forwards to each other starting from left to right. Weavings of the ground loom have plain surface in which the warp surface only is visible. Those rugs, cushions and so on produced today on the ground loom are generally plain with vertical groups of colour forming the decorative theme. In the past, however, a quite dramatic range of geometrical patterns were woven into ground loom pieces. The width of materials of this loom are usually less than one metre, for wider rugs or tent sections two or sometimes three lengths were sewn together with a neat saddle stitch.

### 'Houses of hair'

The ground loom throughout

the Arab peninsula was operated by bedouin women. Although wool from the tribal flock was the principle source of her thread, she also wove camel and goat hair. The *beit al sha'ar* (house of hair) or tents seen throughout Jordan are made of a mixture of wool and camel hair which together provide density against the harsh desert climate and degree of water proofing.

The *sahab*, or room dividers of the tent, are also woven. Depending upon the wealth of the owner, a tent has between one to five rooms. The *mafrash*, floor rugs and *tejjaj*, cushions are also woven but in colourful patterns. Similarly, storage bags and the *laur* or saddle bags and frequently made in bright colours and finished with woolen tassels and sometimes silver decorations.

### Treadle looms

Although women's weaving continues today in Jordan, the introduction of the treadle loom signalled the start to an era of male-dominated, town based loom production in Jordan. "It is unknown when treadle weaving was introduced to Jordan," says Mrs. Kavar. "However, it was probably introduced from either Syria or Egypt," she adds.

With its arrival, weaving centres sprang up in Madaba, Karak, Jerash and Ajloun and served the

needs of both the bedouin and townspeople.

The treadle loom is made of a wooden frame which supports the vertical threads. Horizontal threads are woven into the vertical ones with the aid of the two foot pedals which separate alternate strands of wool at the will of the weaver. The vertical threads hang in decorative bundles of colourful wool attached at the top of the loom or sometimes even the ceiling. The workshops of Jerash and Madaba are a maze of tones and hues with balls of loosely wrapped wool found in bowls and across the floor of each elementary work place.

The last type of loom found in Jordan — the vertical loom — was little used here, says Mrs. Kavar. It produces a similar style of weaving to the ground loom. However, the finer threads employed distinguish the weavings from the ground loom.

### Design variations

Designs typical in Jordan and woven on all three looms can be found throughout the Arabian peninsula. Colours and design combinations may vary and patterns often have different names in different locations, but the basis of bedouin design remains the geometrical motif, repeated and rearranged throughout the woven material, creating a harmonious overall design.

The most frequently used geometrical form is the triangle, sometimes with its tip cut off. Mrs. Kavar believes this simple form originally symbolised an amulet, its mate significance however has been long forgotten, she points out. Other distinctive patterns indicate steps, stairs, evil eye arrangements — lots of triangles surrounding a central focus, star forms or simple vertical variations. Rugs, stresses Mrs. Kavar, are ultimately dependent upon the whim of the creator and an endless range of pattern possibilities are therefore possible.

"Rug colours vary throughout Jordan," says Mrs. Kavar. Around Karak tones were soft whilst the Madaba weavers used deep rich tones. Dyeing was carried out using vegetable and insect dyes prepared by bedouin women. Probably at the time of the introduction of the treadle loom,



A rug weaver in Madaba displays some of his wares (Photo by Josephine Zamaniri)

dyeing centres were established in Madaba and Ramtha as well as Ma'an and Hebron.

### Dyes

"Indigo in shades varying from blue to black was the most frequently used dye, according to Mrs. Kavar. The indigo plant was cultivated throughout Jordan and Palestine for the purpose of dyeing. Other vegetable dyes included pomegranate, rumac, mulberry and onion peel. Some dyes were warm obtained from insects — including kermes — which produces a warm red colour and the ubiquitous cochineal with a dyeing potential ranging from pink to deep red. In the past decades traditional dyes have been superseded by imported chemical ones, and few rugs woven in Jordan ever use natural dyes nowadays.

The modern rugs woven at the Jerash Craft Centre are done on treadle looms and basically woven in natural undyed wools with some

bright reds, oranges, greens and black shades woven into the overall form. These colours are the result of chemical dyes.

The rugs of Madaba, now mostly woven for the tourist market, are of three categories. Firstly, rugs of natural spun wool which are not dyed. The craftsmen believe Jordanian wool to be of best quality, however, it is in short supply and they now import Syrian wool which has a harsher texture. Undyed wool used in these rugs varies in shades of beige through brown to black. Another variety of rugs are made in natural wool which is dyed with chemicals to the traditional Arab colours of red, deep green, black and occasionally orange. With an increasing shortage of locally available spun wool, some of the Madaba workshops have resorted to weaving factory produced yarns. Generally extremely bright in character with central geometrical patterns in iridescent greens and pinks, such rugs are scarcely worth the skill or labour involved in their weaving.



Woolen-framed treadle looms are operated by two foot pedals which separate alternate strands of wool at the will of the weaver (Photo Josephine Zamaniri)

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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
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## The 200-year-old challenge of technology transfer

By Riad Khouri

Napoleon's invasion of Egypt in 1798 marked the beginning of an era in which the communities and governments of the Middle East came into close contact with Western technology. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century, the intensity and scale with which foreign styles and techniques have been sought has varied, but after the oil price revolution in the 1970's, the countries of the region underwent a breakthrough process of economic development involving the massive transfer of technology into the Middle East.

Everything, it seemed, was being manufactured in new ways and "modern" techniques imported from Japan and the West began to be used to produce countless goods and services.

In fact, this isn't a phenomenon exclusive to our region as Third World countries have virtually all, to a greater or lesser extent, been

engaged in a hectic attempt to transfer technology from the West. But the Middle East's vast financial resources have made this process bigger and faster. Of course, things don't always work out to the advantage of the developing country acquiring new techniques.

The Middle East oil refining industry provides a good example of transfer problems. A favourite trick of sellers of refinery equipment is to convince the Middle Eastern customer to buy a product incorporating a technique which is so new that it has not yet been tested enough to determine whether it is trouble-free. Very often it isn't, and the region's refineries have in some cases spent years ironing out the problems of such ultramodern equipment.

Meanwhile inappropriate processes continue to be imported into the Third World, sometimes at a high cost. So what can be done

to make the transfer process smoother and more profitable?

For a start, rich countries like the Middle East oil-producers can go back to the western manufacturer and get involved in its affairs. Some of the region's more aggressive and dynamic firms have shopped around for patents for techniques they utilise in their own industries. Regional business leaders, firms and even governments have in some cases, bought up blocks of shares in foreign companies and become members of their boards.

Second and more important is the whole process of education in general and training in particular. Although a lot of progress has been made in these fields, much remains to be done to bring educational levels up to late 20th century standards. Writing about this crucial subject, economist Yusuf Sayigh remarked "the shortcomings in this area are encountered in the content of curricula, the methodology of edu-

cation and of training, the approach to and the areas of emphasis in education, the relevance of its urgent problems, the degree of creativeness and innovation in education, and its social orientation as against the orientation and motivation of the individual."

Many complain that education in the Middle East has little relevance to the needs and problems of the economy, and is not primarily of the problem-solving type. Furthermore, it essentially prepares, or purports to prepare, individuals for their successful upgrading in the attempt to climb the socio-economic ladder.

This leads to an unhealthy tendency for an "educated" class to emerge which lives physically and psychologically in a "modern" sector largely dependent on imported technology and lifestyles.

Without calling for a complete revamping of educational systems, one solution to this problem lies in

more concentration on vocational, technical and on-the-job training. A few weeks or months of relatively simple instruction in fields as diverse as banking, administration, agriculture or applied engineering can upgrade a weak or unmotivated labour force into people capable of coping with the flood of new techniques washing over the region.

Finally, an often overlooked problem associated with technology transfer is the language difficulty. Polyglot Lebanese, Cypriots or Palestinians are usually better able to cope with imported styles, methods and ideas, partly because of their language skills. But Middle East countries find foreign languages an obstacle to the proper assimilation of imported technology. And the widespread teaching of English and other languages is not enough to solve this problem.

Specialist translations of such things as instruction booklets and operation manuals is vital but

still lacking in some places. So much for high-tech and its assimilation. But what about "low-tech" or what is known as intermediate technology? The Middle East cannot ignore modern techniques and should do its best to assimilate them, but in many cases the answer to industrial or other economic or technical problem lies in developing methods and skills appropriate to the local situation.

And this is where the greatest challenge lies: Regional business leaders, firms and government should have the guts and foresight to know when to embrace a foreign technology and when to reject or modify it. This is a golden mean which must be reached if we are to avoid the two extremes of atavistic reaction and xenophobia on the one hand and blind imitation of the West on the other.

Riad Khouri is a Beirut-based economic consultant.

## Zionists hurt Jews, not Waldheim

THE World Jewish Congress's campaign against former United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim continued on Monday, with WJC leader Edgar Bronfman denouncing Dr. Waldheim in London and presenting new evidence purporting to show that he was a Nazi war criminal. The WJC distributive against Dr. Waldheim, who is now a candidate for the Austrian presidency, is beginning to wear thin. Though the evidence unearthed by the WJC and others does raise certain questions about Dr. Waldheim's war record, there is little to suggest that the former U.N. chief was the butcher that some Jews would have the world believe him to be. Times of war are always considered exceptional circumstances, under which the men and women involved almost invariably do questionable things for not always very clear reasons. This does not mean they are criminals, just that they are human — though humanity is often the first casualty of the deadly fear generated by the conditions of war.

Interestingly enough, one man who has shown some understanding of Dr. Waldheim's position, and anger at the aggressive efforts of the WJC to discredit him, is the famous Austrian Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal. A survivor of five Nazi death camps who has a long record of exposing former Nazis, including several prominent Austrian politicians, Mr. Wiesenthal can be expected to recognise a Nazi when he sees one. He is on the record, however, as saying that while Dr. Waldheim has yet to come clean about his wartime service in the Balkans, he is not a war criminal. Furthermore, as an Austrian Jew, Mr. Wiesenthal resents what he views as the counterproductive interference in the internal affairs of the Austrian nation by the WJC. He argues that the Jewish body has undone years of work towards reconciling young Austrians and Jews, and that whether Dr. Waldheim wins or loses in the upcoming election it is the Jewish citizens of Austria who will suffer the blame. Mr. Wiesenthal is particularly incensed over what he terms "threats" by two prominent leaders of the WJC against Austrians if they voted for Dr. Waldheim.

The arrogance of the WJC in asserting its right to speak for and in the interest of all Jews goes back to Zionism, an ideology which only grudgingly recognises the right of Jews to choose what country they will live in. The Waldheim affair is but the most recent evidence that Zionism, embodied in the expansionist state of Israel, aggressively pursues its own interests over those of Jews struggling to live as loyal citizens in the many nations of the world. In the present case, the need to perpetuate the political and emotional saliency of the Holocaust and Nazi war guilt far outweighs, for organisations such as the WJC, the right of Austrians, including thousands of Jewish Austrians, to select their own president in a democratic manner.

If allegations of war crimes, true or otherwise, were enough to disqualify former soldiers from holding office in a democracy, then the state of Israel would be quite leaderless. The WJC should think on this, and then let the Austrian people decide who they want to be their president.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: King Hussein's peace offensive

KING Hussein's tour in the West which started in Paris is clearly designed to win support for Jordan's endeavours to defuse tension in the Middle East and bring about lasting peace to the region. The King, who visits France, the United States and the United Kingdom within this tour, will naturally be advocating the Arab causes and trying to breathe new life into initiatives aimed at establishing peace and ending the current deadlock which has been frustrating the peoples of this region. Needless to say a speedy move towards finding a just peace is bound to help the region avert the horrors of a new conflict and the vicious circle of extremism and violence. Going ahead with attempts to establish peace means the beating off dangers threatening this region and also overcoming Israel's attempts to impose a state of intimidation and terrorism on this region and to distort the Arab image by linking Arabs with acts of terrorism. King Hussein's diplomatic offensive is a true translation of Arab peace-oriented efforts and a precious chance for those who support the cause of peace in the world.

#### Al Dustour: Strengthening ties to Europe

KING Hussein has embarked on his tour abroad amidst an intensive diplomatic effort now being waged by Jordan in Western capitals to gain further support for the Arab stand vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict and for the Arab search for a just and durable peace. The King has chosen Paris as the first station of his current tour in view of the marked relationship between Jordan and France on the one hand and the unique status of France within the European Community which enables it to play a leading role in all matters pertaining to Western-Arab relations. It is to be noted also that France has been adopting a fair stand in dealing with the Middle East question, and has stood by Arab rights on numerous occasions. Therefore, the King's short visit to France and his talks with its leaders provided a very good chance for reviewing Middle East developments, and also for promoting the excellent relations between France and Jordan in various fields. The Arabs look to France to lead meaningful European initiatives designed to bring about peace in the Middle East. King Hussein's stop in Paris is a prelude to his ultimate mission in the United States where he will meet with President Reagan in the coming week to discuss the Middle East. We hope the King's tour will help the Arabs to achieve their aspired goals of peace and stability.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Seeking international support

KING Hussein has chosen three of the most influential capitals of the world for his current tour, designed to help the Middle East enjoy peace again. His new endeavour followed close on the heels of his latest attempts to put the Arab house in order, thus paving the way for the Arab countries to respond to new peace initiatives. The King realises that for the West to listen to Arab problems and complaints the Arabs have to unite their efforts and their stands before presenting their case to the world. He also realises that this stage requires international backing for any peace moves and support from influential nations for Arab endeavours towards peace. Upon embarking on his current tour, the King must have been quite satisfied with Arab support and backing for Jordan's serious endeavours. The King is therefore trying to win support for the Arabs now threatened by new dangers and wars, and at the same time attempting to bring Arab countries closer together and to re-establish meaningful solidarity in the face of common challenges. Let us hope his endeavours will be crowned with success.

## Chirac and Mitterrand clash over Ambassador Rouleau

By Jacques Amalric

THE tight little world of diplomacy is all agog. France's ambassador to Tunisia, Eric Rouleau, was recalled to Paris on Friday last week, so that he would not be present in Tunis during Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's short visit there. The recall, relayed by the Quai d'Orsay, was ordered by Chirac because he did not want to meet "his" ambassador during his visit. In the end, the move considerably eased the protocol problems raised for the Tunisian government which was completely overwhelmed by the complexity of the issue.

This far-from-routine recall of Eric Rouleau, the former Le Monde journalist appointed ambassador to Tunisia on July 1 last year much to the displeasure of many career diplomats, is the first major hiccup in the power-sharing arrangement between the Elysee and the Matignon.

Soon after arriving at the Matignon, Chirac let Mitterrand know that he wanted a new ambassador appointed to Tunisia rapidly.

The Prime Minister's aides gave two reasons. First, it was pointed out, diplomacy was primarily for professionals. Secondly, Rouleau, they said, had not been really accepted by the Tunisian leaders and his recall was evoked by the Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali who met Chirac in Paris on April 18. After all, had not two Tunis publications, one of them being the very official La Presse, set the tone right after the March 16 elections by following up the accusations of a right-wing rag, Nouvelle Droite, which said Rouleau was at the centre of a conspiracy aimed at overturning Mzali?

The cabinet meeting on Wednesday last week, was in fact due to appoint a new ambassador to Tunisia. But at the last minute, Mitterrand refused to go along with it. Not that he was prepared to touch off a political crisis to keep in his post a man who is said to be a personal friend. But because the President is said to have demanded that Rouleau be "properly treated" — that is, assigned to another post — before he (Mitterrand) gave his assent to his recall. Until now the Matignon has refused to give the Elysee any such guarantees and pointed out that a very large number of career diplomats are still waiting around for assignments.

By bringing the issue before the public, Chirac seems to be forcing Mitterrand's hand. Publicly disavowed by the President, Rouleau could hardly carry on his work in Tunis where the situation requires a very high-level French diplomatic presence.

Chirac's initiative has irritated the Elysee all the more as in his address at the diplomatic press association lunch on Thursday last week, the Prime Minister said some things, which are unusual to say the least, about another ambassador close to Mitterrand, Claude de Kermoulard — he is not a career diplomat either — who he suggested had not done a good job of explaining the French position on UNILIF. It is but a small step from there to imagine that it is now open season on Mitterrand's friends.

However that may be, such slips have the worst possible effect because in diplomacy ridicule is deadly. They are all the more surprising as up to now the Elysee and the Matignon have exercised perfect control over problems arising from changes of personnel — Le Monde.

## 'Gas chamber' controversy a symbol of the far right seeking new respectability

By Philippe Bernard

"DID the (Nazi) gas chambers exist?" Henri Roques, a 66-year-old agricultural engineer, whose doctoral thesis on the subject was approved "with distinction" by the University of Nantes in June 1985, is much too clever to answer it outright. Cautiously, he prefers to tell people questioning him on the subject: "I won't answer yes or no. I'll tell you that there are legitimate grounds for denying their existence." But, rhetoric aside, Roques, who wants to "revive the debate," has scored his first victory by bringing the question out into the open again.

The title of his thesis which was upheld without any fuss at the University of Nantes on June 15, 1985 is "Kurt Gerstein's Confessions. A comparative study of various versions. Critical edition" and it offers no clue as to what it is really about. In 371 pages, the contradictions and "implausibilities" he had picked out in the various accounts of gas chambers provided by this Nazi officer who surrendered to the French army in April 1945.

Ridiculing the recollections of thousands of former concentration camp inmates, Roques declares that Gerstein's confessions are "the... centrepiece of the intellectual construct aimed at proving the existence of homicidal gas chambers" and they have provided "an underpinning for the emergence of various beliefs." And he concludes: "For our part, we conclude that his report was untrustworthy."

The amateur historian was 20 years old when World War II broke out. From the end of the '50s, he was attracted by revisionist writers who thought they could prove that the gas chambers were only a figment of the imagination. He waited until 1981 to prepare his thesis and until 1984 to look for someone to present it.

Doubtless anticipating the hostility of experts and preferring to present his labours as a critical review of a text, he approached several non-historians. One of them, Jacques Rougeot, Professor of French at the University of Paris IV (Sorbonne), initially agreed but later cried off because he had "no sympathy at all for the arguments in question."

Roques's thesis, which earned a "distinction," does not appear to have been circulated in the university. But the recent publication of two "revisionist" works containing references to the Nantes thesis has exposed the scandal of a French university agreeing to accept a thesis aimed at denying the existence of Nazi gas chambers. The university's academic staff is mobilising and considers that "the University of Nantes's scientific reputation has in fact been damaged." Some 60 staff members have signed a petition declaring: "The University of Nantes imprimatur has been thoughtlessly put to a work which, while purporting to be a critical appraisal of writings, is part of a methodical campaign of disinformation organised by the extreme neo-Nazi right." Reports of the protest carried in the press has touched off a storm.

Roques's views are likely to trouble the minds of less well-informed readers and spectators and therefore call for precise historical refutation. But Roques's woolly pseudoscientific speculation could also be an indication of the ambiguity of the convictions held by today's far right which is in search of respectability. An example of this is the way Jean-Claude Martinez, the Front National member of parliament for the Hérault, was at a loss when asked if he thought the gas chambers existed. All he would do was draw an unexpected parallel with the Chernobyl disaster — Le Monde.



## Scrapping SALT II likely to fuel new arms race

By Christopher Hanson  
Reuters

WASHINGTON — A U.S. plan to break out of the SALT II treaty is likely to spark a surge in the nuclear arms race, increase tensions and undermine America's "Star wars" space defence plan, many arms control experts say.

"Without SALT, the entire structure of offensive arms limitation... laid down over 15-20 years by four presidents — Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Carter — will be destroyed," former defence secretary Robert McNamara told reporters.

The state department, brushing aside the concerns of arms control backers, has sought to play down the dangers of the United States breaking out of SALT II.

"While the Soviets could add still more weapons, it's difficult to understand what practical purpose such expansion could serve," spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

The Reagan administration has repeatedly accused Moscow of violating the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II), which the United States has never ratified. But until last week, both superpowers vowed to abide by its weapons limits.

Then, in a major policy shift which dismayed America's European allies, president Reagan announced on Tuesday that Washington would break out of the treaty later this year unless Moscow took "radical" steps towards arms control.

U.S. officials said they doubted such steps would be forthcoming. Reagan had long been under

pressure from conservative backers and the Pentagon's civilian leadership to renounce SALT II, which he himself had declared to be "fatally flawed" because it supposedly gave Moscow a strategic edge.

But former arms control and defence officials contend that the treaty has curbed the Soviet arsenal and that its demise would give the Kremlin a strategic advantage, pushing the arms race to a feverish pace.

"Reagan's decision... opens the floodgates for massive Soviet increases," former defence secretary Paul Wamke told reporters, predicting Washington would strive to keep pace.

He said the Soviet Union — which has an estimated 10,300 strategic (long-range) nuclear warheads, compared with 11,230 for the United States — could at least double its strategic arsenal by 1990 in the absence of SALT.

According to informed congressional and intelligence sources, Moscow is better able than the United States to expand its nuclear arsenal at short notice, which could put Washington at a disadvantage in a post-SALT arms race.

Wamke said the Soviet Union, unlike the United States, had a number of "hot" production lines which were inactive but could quickly be geared up for missile-making.

He said the giant Soviet SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), which now carries 10 warheads, could be refitted to carry 30. A recent House Armed Services Committee report said the Kremlin could more than dou-

ble its ICBM warhead total by 1989 by refitting existing rockets.

Fearing Moscow could leap ahead in the absence of SALT II restraints, the Pentagon's top generals have fought past proposals to break out of the treaty restraints.

Last year, Air Force General Bennie Davis, head of the Strategic Air Command, told Congress: "The Soviet Union, due to its production base, has an enormous capability to field systems."

"If they were to break out of the treaty limits of SALT II, the disparity between the number of warheads held by the Soviet Union and the United States would be significant."

The administration has made much of alleged Soviet violations of SALT II, citing Kremlin production of the SS-25 missile and a radar site in Siberia, among other things.

But McNamara and other arms control supporters said Soviet treaty violations were marginal and, in general, Soviet adherence had been good.

To comply with SALT II, Moscow has dismantled or removed from operation the launchers (rockets and firing tubes) for more than 1,000 ICBMs, about 250 submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and 14 Yankee-class submarines, according to a new report by the private Arms Control Association (ACA).

The group said Washington might have more to lose than Moscow militarily if SALT were scrapped.

It cited a recent congressional report which concluded that, because of its rapid pace of strategic modernisation, the Soviet Union

would be required to dismantle 316 nuclear missiles and bombers under SALT II, the United States only 58.

Other analysts said a major increase in the Soviet arsenal could undermine prospects for Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), commonly called "Star Wars" — a proposed space-based anti-missile shield of lasers and other devices.

Administration officials, acknowledging that even enough attacking missiles any defence could be overwhelmed, have said a successful shield would entail mutual reductions in offensive weapons.

The director of Star Wars research, General James Abrahamson, recently told reporters: "The fewer threats that you face on the other side



# Save Shibam — 'New York' of the Hadramaut

Text and photos by  
Jean-Francois Breton

AT the end of December 1984, UNESCO — the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation — issued a plea to the world to save another national treasure from disintegration: the mud-brick "skyscrapers" in historic Hadramaut's Shibam in South Yemen. Two years earlier, an UNESCO sponsored committee of experts had completed a study of the skyscrapers and added them and the Wadi Hadramaut to UNESCO's World Heritage list and early this year UNESCO, fearful for the future, was trying to raise an estimated \$100 million to save this unique complex of very old houses, walls, gates and tombs as well as mud-brick buildings in Tarim, 48 kilometres to the east.

As a member of the committee that hopes to safeguard Shibam and the Hadramaut, and as an archaeologist — I have been director of the French Archaeological Mission in South Yemen since 1978 — I can only endorse UNESCO's efforts. I have seen those regions at first hand and recently, to see what time and neglect have done to these treasures, I flew over the area again. The memory is with me still.

From Aden, the Hadramaut is about an hour's flight over vast tablelands of reddish brown limestone where flat-topped mountains stretch out like long wings.

where the wadis cut deep horizontal lines into the earth and where narrow camel paths wind through unroofed, unchanging expanses. You're expecting to see the valley, of course, yet the precipitous canyon, appearing suddenly, still comes as a surprise: on both sides, its walls drop from altitudes of 1,000 metres to 730 metres. Between green patches formed by the fields of *dura*, maize and lucerne, lie the dark-green stripes of dategroves.

Then, almost at once, we arrive at Sayun, capital of the valley, with its new mud-brick airport, the ceilings decorated with green and pink stuccoes. Sayun lies at the foot of the mountain wall in the midst of palm trees and on the highest point stands the former sultan's palace, one of the best examples of Hadrami palace architecture.

Recently renovated, the palace now serves as an archaeological museum in which are displayed inscribed slabs and figurines, bronze statues and pieces of pottery from such recently excavated sites as Rayburn and Ba Qutfa. Since 1976, the Yemeni Centre for Culture and Archaeological Research has been making a laudable effort to preserve the antiquities of the valley and this is the first result.

Though the palace dominates the new commercial centre of the town, several white minarets also rise above the clusters of houses in the city — a reminder that Sayun was once famous as a centre of

religion and learning — and surrounding the whole is a wide border of palmgroves dotted with white residences.

After Sayun, we fly over Ghurfah, Qaraw and al-Hazm and there, a white-topped gray mass suddenly rising out of the palmgroves, is Shibam, the so-called "New York" of the Hadramaut standing dramatically on a rocky spur that surges out of the bed of the wadi 725 metres below. From the air it's a vast fortified trapezium running some 250 metres north to south and 380 metres east to west, with the tall facades of contiguous houses forming a wall 20 to 25 metres high. The only city of the Hadramaut with no gardens, Shibam is a city composed of a simple alignment of houses.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, travellers were struck by the height of these houses: five to six stories high. They wondered why and concluded — correctly — that since the city is situated along a border between two Sultanates, Ku'aiti and Kathiri, Shibam dwellers built their skyscrapers to be forts as well as homes; they sought refuge and protection in the height of the structures.

Rising towards the sky, these houses are also striking symbols of economic and political prestige. Since the 17th century a quarter of the population from this area has travelled abroad and Yemeni families once settled in parts of Southeast Asia and East Africa. In Singapore, Surabaya and Batavia, for example, a family named al-

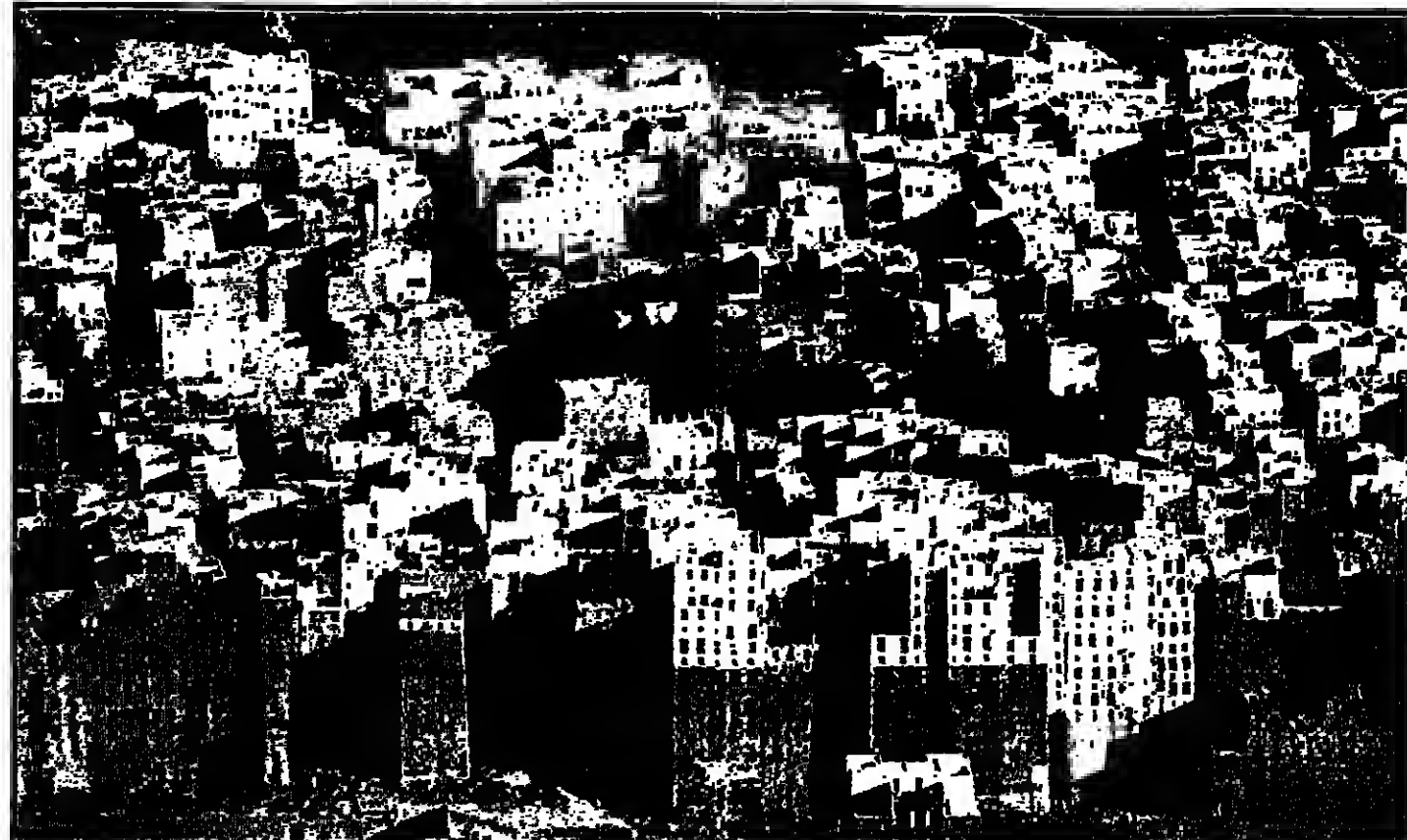
Turway owned enough land to accommodate 30 houses. In the 18th and 19th centuries, back in Shibam, these traders built the skyscrapers — partly to display their wealth, but also to save on the cost of land within the walls. According to W.H. Ingrams, Political Officer in the Hadramaut in 1936, a plot of land 25 metres long by 17 metres wide then cost more than \$10,000 and a 30-metre high building cost more than \$20,000, a staggering amount in today's dollars.

The origins of Shibam certainly go back to pre-Islamic times: ancient texts from Marib in North Yemen say that the city was destroyed by the Hilyarites in the fourth century and nothing survives from this early period, though the Friday mosque and the castle date from the reign of Harun al-Rashid.

Floods often caused great damage to Shibam. In 1524, for example, a flood killed 15,000 people and reduced the city to half its former size and the city as it now stands dates back to that time, though the building boom between 1880 and 1930 — as traders returned from Asia — restored the size of the city somewhat. It now counts some 8,000 inhabitants in the walled city and more than 10,000 in the new suburb, al-Sahil, on the southern bank of the wadi.

Inside Shibam, the city is a strange labyrinth, the streets forming dark narrow tunnels between high, brown houses, with masonry drains in the street, and livestock running free amid a warren of hidden passageways and such odd juxtapositions as a white mosque squeezed in between two high houses. In the west are the wealthy districts of the city, where the doors and windows are of magnificent carved wood and the shops carry the latest in Western toys: television and push-button telephone sets, videos and tape recorders.

And yet the houses are still built in the same old way. Builders dig deep into the ground to find firm soil and, at the bottom of the trench, place a layer of animal droppings covered by a layer of salt. On this course they place timbers parallel to the walls, with stones packed in the interstices. In this manner, the builders construct a masonry wall of stone and lime up to street level. Then they pile sun-dried mud bricks up to the sixth floor, reducing the thickness of the walls as the building rises so that the internal dimensions seem to be constant and the external profile tapers slightly from ground to roof.



Shibam, so called 'New York' of the Hadramaut, stands dramatically atop a rocky spur that surges suddenly from the floor of the Wadi, the

facades of its contiguous houses forming a defensive outer wall 20 to 25 metres.

The houses are topped by flat roofs surrounded by parapets to form terraces. These terraces are waterproofed with an application of *rumal* — a plaster of lime, wood ashes and sand. "Two layers of *rumal* are supposed to last 50 years," says one of the oldest builders, "but it costs about 180 Yemeni dinars (\$568) per three-by-five metre unit. Of course, you can also coat the terraces with earth-and-straw plaster painted with lime — it only costs 80 dinars (\$252) per unit — but that only lasts 15 years."

After visiting the Madrasa al-Hara, west of the city, I was invited by a man named Muhammad Ba Rashid to visit his five floor house — called a *huan* (fortress). On the first floor are storerooms filled with bags of wheat, tools, car tires and, sometimes, livestock; on the second floor are the women's quarters; and on the third is the owner's *mujlis* or *muf-ruf* where, over tea, he told me that the house was built about 100 years ago by his grandfather, a trader in Zanzibar and Mombasa.

The most pleasant rooms are on the fourth floor. One room has two wooden pillars, a wardrobe with five carved doors and a *mus-hrabiya* (a handsome wooden screen) at the window. There is also a hidden staircase that leads to three upper terraces from which you can

see all the surrounding villages. The closest is al-Qahush where a big bronze lion's head was found in the 1940's. It is now in the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, England.

As we inspected the Hadramaut, en route to Tarim some 48 kilometres east, we travelled through wheat fields, through groves of date palms — with some 700,000 trees — and through tracts of land that, in accommodating camels, goats and sheep, typify the agricultural and pastoral traditions of this valley. En route we also saw the still startling combination of yesterday's world with today's world: black-dressed women with high straw hats working in the alfalfa fields while new McCormick machines roar in the distance.

Another sign of today's world is a complex of water pumps; as rainfall is little more than 60 millimetres a year more than 2,500 pumps reach down to get water from depths varying from 100 metres to 150 metres (328 to 492 feet).

Tarim is hidden behind a mud-wall with gatehouses and turrets enclosing the town, its gardens and cemeteries and climbing up the mountain behind. Inside, small boys offer to guide visitors to the palaces and mosques of the city, but you soon learn that there

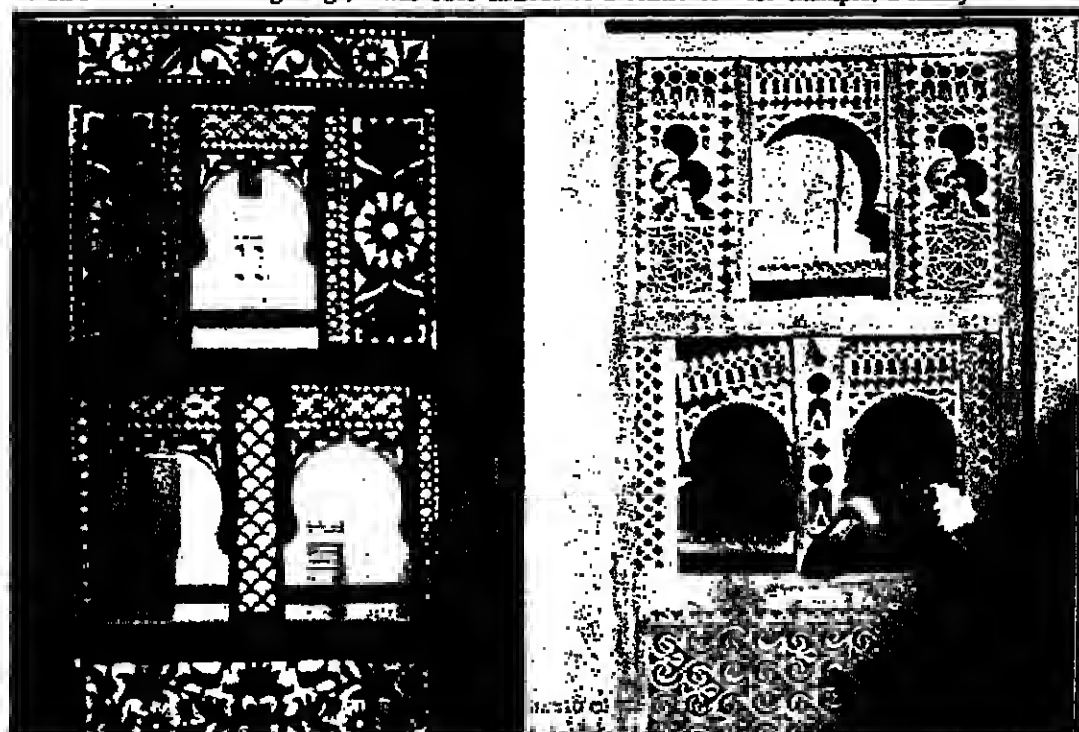
are supposed to be up to 360 of them, one, the Sirjis mosque, dating back to the seventh century.

In Tarim too there is a soaring mosque with a minaret built from mud: this is the al-Muhdar mosque, crowned by a 46-metre-high mud minaret, the highest in Yemen. All the great houses of Tarim are massive square buildings with regular rows of tall windows, the highest belonging to the al-Qaf family, and the signs of the earlier international trade are obvious: doors from Singapore and Indian pinnacles. Tarim also boasts the great Awqaf Library where the city's founders have stored their memories: between 300 to 400 manuscripts believed to be unique in the Islamic world, according to the scholar Abd al-Qader Sabban.

Tarim was once famous for its musicians, and its builders, but since the prosperous days when Hadramis built hundreds of houses, palaces, mosques and *madrasas*, the economics of the Hadramaut have greatly changed. With the income from Southeast Asia and East Africa sharply reduced and the world economic slump affecting even the Hadramis, builders and farmers are unable to make much of a living anymore. The results are attested everywhere, particularly in the lovely Shibam skyscrapers; because owners have been unable to maintain them, 30-odd houses out of 500 are now virtual ruins and long stretches of the city-wall have collapsed.

The wall has been placed under further stress because of the poor system of drainage outwards through the wall; in 1976 and 1982 a breach in the Muza dam some three miles west of Shibam let flood waters flow down into the city, and extensive damage was done to some of the outer houses. In Tarim, as in Shibam, many houses have not been repaired during the past decade because of the inability of their owners to cope with the extraordinarily rapid increase in building costs. The average daily wage is now 10 Yemeni Dinars (\$31) for a worker and 16 Dinars (\$50) for a builder. Up close, as a result, you can see that although the Manhattan of the Hadramaut is almost as striking as from the air, the disintegration is more shocking. Unique and lovely, it must be saved.

Jean-Francois Breton, director of the French Archaeological Mission in Yemen since 1978, is a member of the International Committee for the Rescue of Shibam. His article and photos appeared in May-June issue of the *Artemis World Magazine*.



Handsome latticed-wooden windows provide cool shaded seclusion within and intricate patterns without.

## Latin America takes cautious steps to cut back public sector

By Keith Grant  
Reuters

CARACAS — Latin American governments, faced with their worst economic crisis in living memory, have begun tentative efforts to dismantle their inefficient and sometimes highly corrupt state sectors.

Generally the region has responded warily to encouragement from Washington to denationalise, but most countries are doing just that as public sector deficits become unmanageable.

"We must move from an economy based on subsidies to free competition, and private business must understand that the protectionist state no longer exists," Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi said in March.

Argentina has announced a five-year plan to divest control and improve management among its 353 state-owned companies by 1989. Brazil plans to sell 40 to 50 state enterprises and Mexico has drawn up a list of 236 entities for sale.

The trend is clear throughout the region, and nowhere more than in Chile which has experienced a decade of privatisation since General Augusto Pinochet's 1973 military coup.

Under the "Chicago boys," Chilean free market economists who studied under Professor Milton Friedman, hundreds of businesses were sold off for ideological reasons.

But most governments in Latin America today are following suit because they can no longer pay their bills.

Privatisation is a central theme of the U.S.-sponsored Baker plan, which is offering \$20 billion in new loans to debtor countries which implement sweeping economic reforms, particularly in the public sector.

In the last 15 years when the region's foreign debt multiplied nearly 2,000 per cent to \$350 billion, Latin America's state sectors have grown into bureaucratic monsters which have hampered economic growth and efficiency.

In many instances, governments were forced to bail out private banks and industrial groups. In Colombia, the state owns 75 per cent of the banking sector against 30 per cent in 1982.

Governments themselves see

privatisation as a relatively painless way of cutting expenses while shifting responsibility for job cuts to the private sector. The alternatives — raising taxes or borrowing — are no longer feasible.

An important side benefit of privatisation is that opportunities for graft, which became a way of life for many public officials and formed part of the \$120 billion in regional capital flight since 1976, should be reduced.

In many cases, the corruption sprang from governments' inability to meet spiralling demand for public services.

In Venezuela a standard under-the-table commission for obtaining a tax line in the late 1970s was \$10,000 and in Argentina today Buenos Aires residents must pay \$8,000 for a telephone line from state-owned Entel.

In most cases, corrupt officials simply made off with funds. In the last three years three Venezuelan ministers and one governor of Caracas have fled the country after being charged with embezzling government funds.

Venezuela is investigating 1,972 cases of administrative corruption but there have been almost no prosecutions.

In one of Brazil's biggest recent corruption scandals, merchant marine authority Sumamam collapsed with debts of \$500 million after guaranteeing foreign loans to shipyards for vessels that were never built.

As well as selling off companies, many governments have tried to raise efficiency in state sectors and cut costs.

President Alan Garcia's government in Peru has made state oil firm Petroperu a symbol of its public sector efficiency drive, slashing the number of managers by more than half and slapping a \$1,000 per month ceiling on salaries.

Venezuela's state oil industry has merged two firms which should save about \$350 million a year.

But concrete results from privatisation have been slow to materialise and few state entities have been snapped up by the private sector yet.

Mexico has sold its Nacional Hotelera hotel chain and is reported ready to put the Mexicana

de Aviacion airline on sale.

Argentina plans to sell petrochemicals and steel firms but a state secretary appointed to oversee privatisation recently resigned, complaining he was hamstringing in the job.

In Ecuador, President Leon Febres Cordero has identified closely with Washington's free market principles but the state continues to dominate the economy.

"There is a minimal tendency to privatise, virtually no case in this government," Comptroller General Marcelo Merlo Jaramillo told Reuters.

Brazil has offered relatively small companies though last November 6.6 per cent of state oil firm Petrobras was sold to the public for \$330 million.

Peru wants to sell 17 of its 233 state firms, but most are low-profit utilities, and a senior official said he didn't think there would be much interest by private or foreign investors.

Venezuela announced plans three years ago to sell 51 companies in the Corporacion Venezolana de Fomento, a state-owned giant with \$3 billion in foreign debts, but little has been sold as private businessmen prefer to invest in dollar accounts abroad.

Hopes in Washington that privatisation would open up Latin America to foreign investment have been largely disappointed, partly because governments are unwilling to relinquish control of key sectors.

Ecuador and Chile have welcomed foreign capital but the major markets in Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela remain basically restrictive, while in Argentina red tape offsets an open policy.

Venezuela has allowed foreign investors to take over Caracas refuse collection and is seeking foreign capital to develop its state-owned petrochemicals industry.

But Brazil's tight controls over its computer industry continue to block foreign firms and U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, has said retaliatory measures are likely.

While Mexican officials say the 1973 law restricting foreign investment is flexible, the only major company to win approval recently has been International Business Machines (IBM).

## Changing patterns of work-related injuries — fewer accidents and fewer deaths

THE workplace is becoming safer — at least in some parts of the world.

In 70 countries (48 developing and 22 developed) for which data were made available, the situation regarding occupational accidents appears to be improving. The total number of workers killed or injured dropped by over half a million since 1980 (about 6 per cent fewer), with about 10 per cent fewer fatalities. When considered in the light of the increasing number of workers exposed to risk throughout the world, this would seem to indicate that occupational safety measures are taking effect.

In the developed countries the number of fatal injuries fell by about 14 per cent and in the developing countries by about 2 per cent.

Still, in one year, about 10.4 million workers in the 70 countries were involved in work-related accidents which resulted in either death or injury serious enough to warrant loss of working time — including about 28.5 thousand fatalities.

These figures are based on data published in the ILO's 1985 Year Book of Labour Statistics, and refer to 1984 or the nearest year for which figures were made available. Unfortunately, statistics are not available for almost 100 countries, including some of the world's largest in terms of population.

About 26 per cent of the fatalities occurred in manufacturing, while accidents in construction accounted for a further 24 per cent; agriculture 13 per cent; transport, storage and communication 11 per cent; and mining and quarrying 6 per cent. The remaining industries each registered fewer than 6 per cent of all fatal injuries. This meant a slight change in the pattern of fatalities from the previous year, when the corresponding figures were respectively 28 per cent, 19 per cent, 11 per cent, 13 per cent and 9 per cent, while the remaining industries each accounted for 5 per cent or less.

The picture differed somewhat between developed and developing countries: in the 22 developed countries, 25 per cent of fatal accidents were registered in construction, 24 per cent in manufacturing, 14 per cent in transport, storage and communication, 10 per cent in agriculture and 7 per cent in wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels.

While still accounting for most non-fatal injuries involving loss of working time, the proportion of all such injuries occurring in manufacturing is decreasing (41 per cent in 1984 as opposed to 45 per cent in 1983). In construction and agriculture, however, the proportion went up to 15 per cent and 13 per cent respectively (as compared with 14 per cent and 6 per cent). The other industries each accounted for less than 7 per cent of non-fatal injuries, with about 3 per cent for electricity, gas and water and financing, insurance, real estate and business services together.

Data on occupational injuries should be used with extreme caution, especially when making comparisons at the international level. There are wide differences in the nature of the sources, in the methods of reporting or of compiling the statistics and in the practices concerning the definition of occupational injuries to be covered by the national statistical system — ILO feature.

It is like the third act of a national drama that has been acted over the past 20 years. Act one took place in the 60s when sexual permissiveness reached its peak. Act two came with the attempts in the 70s to turn back the clock to the more puritanical days of prohibition. When the Presidential Commission in 1970 failed to provide backing for this movement president Richard Nixon, who had been elected on a repressive law and order platform, refused to accept its findings. It was attacked as having too many liberal members, just as the attorney general's commission is now being criticised for having too many law enforcement officials on its panel.

The current act three presumably brings both sides face to face to settle just how free Americans can be to follow their sexual interests. But in pointing out the dangers of censorship, the American Civil Liberties Union is underlining the fact that this drama cannot be limited merely to matters of sex. Here is a confrontation between the two philosophies governing American life, between those who want a society as free as possible and those who argue that such a large mixed population needs to be strictly regulated.

Much the same feeling lies at the back of the growing concern about the way the AIDS epidemic has been manipulated. Tolerance of sexual activity in cities like New York has been modified on the grounds that such activities may spread the disease.

Not only have many homosexual meeting places been closed down, but hostility towards permissiveness that had been checked is now openly expressed again, as if the widespread fear of AIDS has made intolerance respectable again.

AIDS, in fact, has been instrumental in putting the clock back much more effectively than the open campaigning of the repressive groups. It has also encouraged more repressive measures against prostitutes and the pornography business, though what is pornography in a vast country like the United States, depends very much on where you live.

What also probably protects the pornography industry far more than any liberal argument against censorship is the fact that the Mafia controls much of it.

In the United States, even when they are illegal, Mafia controlled businesses seemed to have the knack of survival. Mafia inv-

olved in manufacturing, 22 per cent in construction; 13 per cent in agriculture; 11 per cent in transport, storage and communication; and 7 per cent in mining and quarrying, with 6 per cent or less for the other industries. Electricity, gas and water appears to be the safest sector throughout the world, with about 2 per cent.

About 170 million working days were lost throughout the world as a result of accidents at work — 40 per cent of these in manufacturing; 17 per cent in construction, 9 per cent each in transport, storage and communication, 10 per cent in agriculture and 7 per cent in wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels.

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What seems clear is that there is wide disagreement even between the experts — The Guardian.

## Social effects of pornography emerge again in heated debate

By W.J. Weatherby

SEXUAL attitudes in the United States are once more the topic of a growing national controversy. What set it off was the attorney-general's forthcoming report on the social effects of pornography which is due to be made public in July but which has already been leaked to the media.

The attorney-general's commission on pornography apparently takes the opposite view to the 1970 presidential commission which found no link between pornography and violence or other types of anti-social behaviour.

The new commission finds that exposure to most pornography "bears some causal relationship to the level of sexual violence, sexual coercion or unwanted sexual aggression," and calls for strong action against the pornography industry — including more severe penalties for violation of obscenity laws.

An official of the American Civil Liberties Union immediately accused the new commission of being on "the track of censorship," but that obviously is only the first shot in a battle that will intensify over the summer when the report is officially published.



# Kriek keeps American hopes alive with upset

PARIS (Agencies) — Americans Martina Navratilova and John Kriek advanced to the semifinals of the French Open Tuesday, Navratilova as expected and Kriek in a major surprise.

Kriek, a naturalised U.S. citizen born in South Africa and now living in Naples, Fla., used a risk-filled game to defeat the 1977 champion, Argentina's Guillermo Vilas, 3-6, 7-6, 7-6, 7-6 in the men's field.

"This is like Disneyland all over again," said Kriek, without a tournament victory since the middle of 1985. "It's like a little fantasy world."

The top-seeded Navratilova, also a naturalised citizen who was born in Czechoslovakia and now lives in Dallas, had some shaky moments but defeated seventh-seeded American Kathy Rinaldi 7-5, 6-4 in the women's field.

Navratilova, reaching the semifinals in Paris for the third straight year and the fourth in the last five, came from behind to win the first set and then struggled in the second.

She was one point away from holding serve to make it 4-1 in the second set, but needed five tries to close out the game.

And, as Navratilova was serving for the match, Rinaldi broke her at love. Navratilova then broke back for the victory.

Kriek took nearly four hours to overcome the 12th-seeded Vilas, an experienced clay-court player who won here in 1977 and has reached the final three other times.

"Today I had to gut it out to win. It was the toughest match of my life," Kriek, 28, said later.

Vilas took the first set quickly against Kriek and when he recovered from a 4-1 deficit in the second set to force a tie-break, it seemed he might take control.

But Kriek won the tie-break eight points to six then, serving

erratically but lobbing and volleying with imagination to catch Vilas unprepared, rounded off an evenly-fought third set with another tie-break win, this time 7-5.

He squandered three match points at 5-3 up in the fourth set on Vilas' serve and then, serving for the match, lost his serve as the 33-year-old Argentine made a final attempt to stay alive.

Kriek, a former Australian Open champion, started the tournament as the highest-ranking U.S. player in the absence of John McEnroe, who is resting, and the suspended Jimmy Connors and is now within two matches of becoming the first U.S. player to win the French Open since Tony Trabert in 1955.

That he was seeded here at all is due to his world computer ranking, based on performances on other surfaces. It is his first appearance here since 1979, and he said last week he was surprised at his own success and had only entered because his wife wanted to come shopping in Paris.

# Draw gives Morocco a boost of confidence

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP) — Lightly regarded Morocco held seeded Poland to a scoreless draw in their Group F opening match Tuesday, prompting the Polish coach to blast his World Cup team.

However, coach Antoni Piechoczek said that the tie at Estadio Universitario Stadium did not spell the end of his team's chances to advance to the second round.

On the other side, Jose Faria, the Brazilian coach of Morocco, emphasised that the unexpected draw against a "powerful team of great tradition" boosted his team's morale.

"We are now confident to do well also in the second match of the group against England," Faria said.

He conceded, however, that the decisive match for Morocco will be the third and last one against Portugal on June 11.

Poland, which placed third twice in the three previous World Cups, played lacklustre soccer throughout, and its slow-motion attacks caused few threats to the fast-moving Moroccan defense.

Zbigniew Boniek, the captain-forward of the Polish team, failed to produce his usual pace and imaginative play and the whole team suffered from his disappointing showing. Rising-star Dariusz Dziekanowski did poorly and was substituted during the second half.

The Moroccan team played more pleasing soccer but was inconclusive and failed to exploit some mistakes of the Polish defense.

# Denmark's Laudrup, Scotland's Nicholas await chance to shine

By Robert Philip  
Reuter

NEZAHUALCOYOTL, Mexico — Michael Laudrup and Charlie Nicholas, two of Europe's most richly gifted young forwards, may feel they have returned to their spiritual home when Denmark and Scotland launch their World Cup crusades Wednesday.

The heat and shade of Nezahualcoyotl, named after the 15th century Aztec poet-king; Texcoco, are the perfect conditions for soccer poetry and the two men — students of football's academy of art — will relish the slower Latin American pace.

All six games in Group E, the so-called "Group of Death" because it also includes former World Cup winners Uruguay and West Germany, could be decided by the one flash of individual brilliance for which Laudrup and Nicholas are renowned.

Both players will obviously come under close scrutiny from opposing defenders and to a great extent will be dependent on their rugged attacking partners Steve Archibald and Preben Elkjaer.

Archibald was added to the Scotland squad only because of an

injury to Kenny Dalglish but his pre-World Cup performances in the United States have made the Barcelona striker the obvious partner for Nicholas at the expense of West Ham's prolific scorer Frank McAvennie.

Like Archibald, Elkjaer's mere physical presence is enough to intimidate defenders and in two seasons with Verona he has become one of the most feared predators in the Italian First Division.

Both managers are expected to name fluid 3-5-2 formations, a tactic the Danes have used to great effect since West German coach Sepp Piontek took over in 1979, but one with which the Scots have only recently begun experimenting.

"Every game in the section is going to be highly competitive," explained Scotland manager Alex Ferguson. "Control of the midfield will be essential."

Whether Mexico is the right time and place for altering their style of play remains to be seen, but the Scots, whose World Cup history is a catalogue of none too heroic failures, are quietly confident they can make a major impact in 1986.

Even without Dalglish, their midfield bristles with talent and captain Graeme Souness is another player who should blossom in the rarefied atmosphere.

His personal duel with Danish powerhouse Jan Molby could be one of the highlights of the match. Molby assumed the role vacated by Souness at Liverpool when the Scot, now player-manager of Glasgow Rangers, joined Italian club Sampdoria in 1984.

Piontek has pledged his team to attacking Brazilian-style football and the Scots' preparation suggests they will employ the famous "rope-a-dope" technique used by Muhammad Ali when he regained the heavyweight boxing title from George Foreman in Zaire in 1974.

But the Danes are well aware Scotland intend to defend in depth for the first hour in the hope of sapping their strength before initiating an all-out onslaught of their own.

"I know the Scots think this is the group game they have the best chance of winning," said Piontek. "Certainly, it should be the most open match of the section and, although this is our first ever appearance in the World Cup finals, we also fancy our chances."

# Maradona gets the best revenge

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Inspired by superstar Diego Maradona, who created all three goals, Argentina confidently beat outsider South Korea 3-1 (2-0) in its opening game of the World Cup Monday and took the lead in Group A.

Maradona, whose probing runs and deft passing exposed a disorganised Korean defence, was fouled repeatedly but got his revenge by setting up Jorge Valdano's two strikes after six and 46 minutes and Oscar Ruggeri's 18th-minute header.

"We did not think South Korea would be that rough, but we still won although it was not easy," Maradona told reporters afterwards.

During the first hour of the match, Argentina delivered an all-round performance with almost constant attacking play and good ball control in midfield, denying the South Koreans to develop their feared counter-attacks.

Time and again, the South Koreans, playing their first World Cup game since 1954, had to resort to violent tactics because their defence was constantly beaten by the physically strong Argentines.

"We had planned a individual defence system, especially against Maradona, but it was a mistake," a

disappointed coach Kim Jung-Nam said.

Commenting on the dozen or so crude fouls his players committed on Maradona, Kim said he "never gave instruction to take care of players in a violent fashion... It is permitted to closely cover players within the rules of the game."

With the first games in Group A completed, Argentina leads with 2 points, ahead of Bulgaria and Italy "with one point each, and South Korea with none."

Maradona was kicked in the stomach in the sixth minute but got up to blast the resultant freekick into the South Korean wall. He quickly picked up the rebound and passed wide to Valdano, who struck a fine angled shot into the far corner of the net.

After Maradona was pulled down again in the 18th minute, the Napoli star again took the freekick and the unmarked Ruggeri had space to spare when he headed home from close range.

"Each play of Maradona started because of a foul on him, but he did not retaliate and made no errors," said coach Carlos Bilardo.

Argentina, the 1978 world champions, will now face current champion Italy, which could only draw against Bulgaria in the tournament opener last Saturday.

# Iraq set for World Cup debut

By Reg Gratton  
Reuter

TOLUCA, Mexico — Paraguayan Julio Cesar Romero and Iraq's Hussein Saeed both have the skill and flair to make their mark on the World Cup finals when the teams meet Wednesday in their opening Group B game.

Paraguay, making their first appearance in the finals since 1958 and Iraq, making their debut, are outsiders but both coaches say their teams are on the verge of great things.

Paraguayan Cayetano Re, who played in his country's last World Cup campaign, believes midfielder Romero, or Romerito as he is popularly known, and striker Roberto Cabanas are players fit to grace any world stage.

And Iraq's coach, the garrulous Brazilian Evaristo De Macedo, ranks his elegant top goalscorer Hussein Saeed among the greats, freely comparing him to Frenchman Michel Platini.

Re, a firm believer in the Dutch

style of total football of the 1970s, said Tuesday the match was a "life and death affair" for his team but stressed he would not forsake his attacking policy.

"We know Iraq are tough, skilful and defensive but we must go for goals," Re said, though his tactics could change against the other group members, Belgium and Mexico, who played Tuesday.

The Paraguayans, though full of exiles like Romerito, Cabanas and midfielder Adolfo Canete, have the most settled squad in their history and Re reported no injury problems.

De Macedo also said his team was at full strength and like the Paraguayans had not been troubled by altitude even though Toluca, the Iraqis' base, is the highest World Cup venue.

De Macedo, on loan to Iraq from the Qatar national side, knows his team's limitations but admires their commitment and technique. "Playing against the best can only help us improve and I believe this team will get better and better," he told Reuters.

# Soviets show depth, striking power

IRAPUATO, Mexico (AP) — A 6-0 victory over Hungary in its World Cup opener Monday, achieved without its two most famous forwards, demonstrated in devastating fashion the Soviet Union's tremendous depth in world-class strikers.

The Soviets, without Oleg Blokhin and Oleg Protasov, used a pair of strikers with relatively little international experience to romp over the Hungarians.

Blokhin and Protasov had been expected to play, but in a surprise move coach Valery Lobanovsky said he decided to leave them out of the lineup because they were suffering from slight injuries.

He gave the chance to Igor Belanov, and the lightning-fast striker playing in only his third international scored once, set the second goal and tore the defence to pieces. He got help deep from Dynamo Kiev teammate Alexander Zavarov.

When Belanov, 26, tired in the second half, he was replaced by Sergei Rodionov, who promptly scored the sixth Soviet goal.

The Soviets never seemed to miss Blokhin, 33, a former European Player of the Year who has 101 caps, or Protasov, 21, who dis-

tinguished himself by scoring 35 goals in the Soviet League — the third highest total in Europe last season.

"We have 22 players. They can all play at any time and at many different positions," said assistant coach Nikita Simonian a few days before the match with Hungary.

Simonian, a former international midfielder, said, "All our players are capable of carrying out different tasks on the field."

For example, Vladimir Besonov, one of the eight Dynamo Kiev players who started against Hungary, has played in two different positions in two training games, none of them his nominal place.

A midfielder, Besonov played as a striker in a warm-up match against a Mexican team and scored two goals.

In the next game, he played as a sweeper and against Hungary he successfully replaced injured Alexander Chivach in that key defensive position.

The Soviets also showed they have several versatile midfielders who are able to transform to forwards.

Pavel Yakovenko of Dynamo Kiev scored once against Hungary

while his Kiev teammate Ivan Yaremchuk added two and Sergei Aleinikov of Dynamo Minsk netted once.

Lobanovsky's strategy was to crowd the midfield to steal the ball and then to break into swift lateral moves that would elude the defence. It is the same style he used to bring Dynamo Kiev to the top in European competition.

The tactic gives plenty of space to the quick Soviet midfielders, who often outnumber the opponent's defenders.

In Mexico's heat and altitude, such a style can wear down a team less physically prepared than the Soviets, who looked fit in training and proved they were in top shape against Hungary.

When the strikers tire, the substitutes blend in perfectly with the style. And with a high-scoring bench and a wide range of equally impressive strikers, the Soviets appear to have the talent to go far in the tournament.

"We are a collective team where individual technical capabilities of the players serve a common purpose," said Lobanovsky. "But it's too premature to say whether we can win the World Cup."

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign-exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4880/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3875/80	Canadian dollars
	2.2870/80	West German marks
	2.5730/40	Dutch guilders
	1.8920/35	Swiss francs
	46.68/73	Belgian francs
	7.2850/2900	French francs
	1566/1567	Italian lire
	172.00/15	Japanese yen
	7.3000/50	Swedish crowns
	7.7350/7400	Norwegian crowns
	8.4600/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	341.75/342.25	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices in London closed firm after a fairly quiet session on hopes of further cut in 10 per cent U.K. clearing bank base rates in the near future, dealers said.

Tuesday's firmer trend came despite Monday's decline on Wall Street and the many cash calls which are still overhauling the market, dealers added. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 8.6 points at 1,605.1.

Among equity leaders, Hanson Trust dipped 2p on the day to 183 despite interim profits of £157.6 million, which were in line with most market forecasts but below some others. ICI rose 3p to 920, Hawker 8p to 587, ASDA-MFI 6p to 150 and GEC 2p to 208.

Allied Lyons ended 8p better at 341 after news Monday night that it is launching a court action to seek five billion Canadian dollars damages from Gulf Canada Corp. and others, for breaking a contract to sell the Hiram Walker liquor business to Allied Lyons.

Elsewhere, Tate and Lyle rose 15p to 585 but Blue Circle shed 15p to 661 after a less than optimistic AGM statement. Government bonds were marked down around 3/4 point at the outset in reaction to the lower close on the U.S. bond market.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1986

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** This is a day when you best make out well by keeping your thoughts and activities centered on the strictly practical whether in financial, property or other interests.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Study your assets very carefully and know how to add or improve them in some way. Double-check any advice you get.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Enhance your appearance and then take health treatments you may need, also. Advice from a friend is misleading.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** There is a myriad of tasks for you to complete, so get at them early. **MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Try not to force others to do your will, otherwise you could easily lose valuable help they could give.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Make sure you are wise, but secretive, in handling outside matters. Avoid bigwigs who are in an irate mood.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** You want to make radical changes, but are not thinking straight right now, so take it easy. A newcomer is self-seeking.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** You have made practical promises to others and should carry through with them without further ado. Be patient with your mate.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Don't have any talks with a friend concerning finances or a big argument could ensue. Avoid costly amusements.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** You may not understand why your family doesn't agree with your ideas, but age has something to do with it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Be more willing to compromise with associates in case they oppose you in a private arrangement or affair.

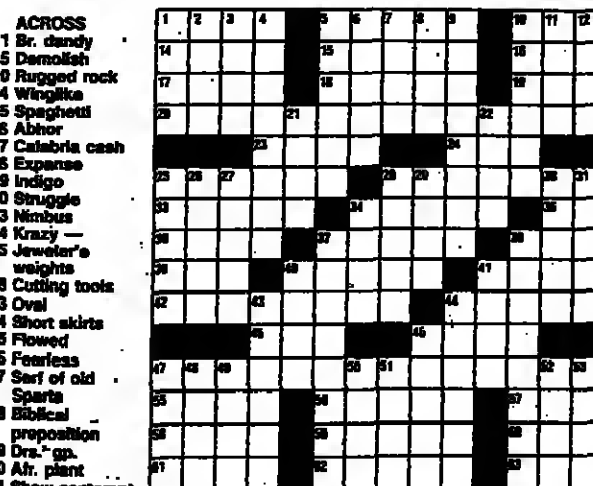
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** A friend and an advisor may not agree and could pose many a problem for you and your mate. Separate business and home life.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Don't involve a friend in a squabble between you and a higher-up, or there can be real trouble. Be conscientious.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will have all kinds of ability at being of service to others and great compassion for them. However, just when duties are to be commenced, your progeny will get a desire to travel. Teach to carry through with promises made.

## THE Daily Crossword

by Harold B. Counts



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Br. dandy	10 Maps
2 Demolish	11 Rajah's wife
3 Rugged rock	12 Starling
4 Wagon	13 Congratulate
5 Spaghetti	14 See you later
6 Abhor	15 Rooms about
7 Calabash cash	16 Plot
8 Expense	17 Perfume
9 Indigo	18 Kind of race
10 Struggle	19 Beverly
11 Niche	20 Calabash or
12 Crazy	21 Wild water
13 Jeweler's weights	22 Buffalo
14 Cutting tools	23 Start of old
15 Oval	24 Sports
16 Short skirts	25 Proposition
17 Flowed	26 Dr. "go"
18 Fearless	27 Air plant
19 Start of old	28 Show contempt
20 Sports	29 on (adverb)
21 Proposition	30 physically
22 Dr. "go"	31 Hold fast
23 Air plant	32 Long known
24 Show contempt	33 Dancer
25 on (adverb)	34 Because angry
26 physically	35 Neocoe
27 Hold fast	36 In common
28 Long known	37 Rained
29 Dancer	38 New, low
30 Because angry	39 Madu
31 Neocoe	40 garbancos
32 In common	41 Dr. college
33 Rained	42 Gas, nobel
34 New, low	43 Waste
35 Madu	44 Jullander
36 garbancos	
37 Dr. college	
38 Gas, nobel	
39 Waste	
40 Jullander	

41 Hang loosely 48 Harp

42 Info 53 Social

43 Harp 54 Despot

44 Harp 55 Harp

45 Harp 56 Harp

46 Harp 57 Harp

47 Harp 58 Harp

48 Harp 59 Harp

49 Harp 60 Harp

50 Harp 61 Harp

51 Harp 62 Harp

52 Harp 63 Harp

53 Harp 64 Harp

## World's major grain exporters fail to resolve marketing row

WHISTLER, British Columbia (R) — The world's five major grain exporters failed at a two-day conference to reach agreement over slumping prices, trade battles and protectionism, primarily between the United States and Western Europe.

U.S. and European Community (EC) officials vowed no let-up in aggressive marketing and greater use of subsidies, blamed for a worldwide grain glut and sinking prices, already depressed for six years.

"It is absolutely essential that our trading partners understand that the U.S. is not going to make all the adjustments," American Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng told reporters after the conference ended Monday.

Mr. Frans-Andriessen, agriculture commissioner of the 12-member EC, said U.S. determination to regain a larger world share would create difficulties for all exporters during the coming two years at least.

He warned that as fears grew of weaker prices in the event of an all-out U.S.-EC trade war, no one could predict market developments.

Canadian Wheat Board Minister Charles Mayer arranged the gathering at this mountain resort 95 kilometres north of Vancouver out of alarm over the effect of U.S.-EC battles on Canada's deteriorating grain exports.

Argentine Agriculture Minister Lucio Rea and Australian Trade Minister John Dawkins also attended. The five exporters account for 95 per cent of world wheat trade and a similar share of coarse grains such as corn, barley and rice.

Canada is the largest wheat exporter after the United States and the fourth largest seller of coarse grains, behind the United States, Western Europe, and Australia.

A joint communique said the conference was an essential first step for further discussions with

agreement only to meet again early next year in the United States.

Mr. Lyng said the meetings were friendly and provided a good exchange of information, although there were moments when each side criticised the other.

"I think it would have been a big mistake to expect we could make major progress in solving agricultural problems," he said.

Mr. Lyng said he emphasized to the ministers that U.S. export policy was "primarily to regain export business we have lost, and we are determined to do that."

The new U.S. farm bill enacted last December authorizes \$1 billion in subsidies for American grain producers over the next three years.

Analysts believe the subsidies will allow the United States, which as the dominant exporter sets the common or "floor" price, to inflict deeper damage on competitors and cause a further drop in grain prices.

## Statoil secures \$68 billion contract to supply gas to Europe until 2020

STAVANGER, Norway (R) — Norway Monday clinched a \$68 billion deal to sell gas for 27 years to a consortium of Western European buyers, state oil company Statoil said.

Statoil spokesman, Mr. Willy Olsen, told a news conference in this Western port: "The agreement that has been signed will secure Norway increased market share on the European market in years to come."

Statoil said deliveries of gas from the North Sea Troll and Sleipner fields will begin in about 1993 and the contract with the buying consortium, led by West Germany's Ruhrgas, involves the sale of about 450 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

The agreement has been signed with gas buyers from West Germany, the Netherlands, France and Belgium, but Statoil said talks were continuing with other nations to sell more gas.

The Norwegians have faced stiff competition from the Soviet Union and Algeria, which have abundant supplies of cheaper gas, but industry sources said Norway's position as a secure Western ally had been an important factor.

Norway was bitterly disappointed when Britain last year pulled out of a deal to buy gas from the Sleipner field. The new agreement will mean over 60 billion crowns (\$8 billion) of new investment.

Norway already provides 24 per cent of gas consumed in Western Europe from its rich North Sea fields.

The Troll field will be one of the deepest to have been commercially developed. Platforms on the field will be about 450 metres tall from the sea bed to the top of the production rigs, demanding

immensely expensive technology. Oil and Energy Minister Arne Oeien welcomed the agreement, saying it had enormous consequences for the Norwegian economy and that it opened the way for even more Norwegian gas to be exported to Western Europe.

Statoil and Mr. Oeien declined to put a value on the contract, but ministry officials said it was worth about 500 billion crowns (\$68 billion). Part of the contract involves building a 1,100-kilometre pipeline on the seabed from the fields to Zeebrugge in Belgium.

West German and Dutch supplies will be transported through existing pipelines to Emden, West Germany.

Under the agreement, the buyers have pledged to take gas until the year 2020 at about 20 billion cubic metres a year, with options to take more if necessary.

## Spanish dock workers begin new strike

MADRID (R) — Spanish dock workers began a new 10-day strike Tuesday as the Stevedores' union met government officials in Madrid to discuss a port reorganization plan which could slash 3,000 jobs.

The Spanish shipbrokers association told Reuters that only Vigo and El Ferrol in the northwest and Seville in the south were working normally out of Spain's 27 ports. In Barcelona and Palma De Majorca, Stevedores were only attending to ships already docked in the ports. No new vessels were being allowed in. A 10-day strike which ended last Tuesday paralysed 22 Spanish ports and caused losses of \$170 million, according to the Spanish shippers' association Anave.

## UAE enjoys world's highest per capita income, bank says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar and Switzerland led the nations of the world in average per-capita income in 1984, according to preliminary figures made public Monday by the World Bank.

The 1,277,000 people of the oil-rich UAE earned an average of \$22,300, the figures in the 1986 World Bank Atlas showed, although they did not take into account the recent sharp drop in oil prices.

Qatar, another Arab emirate with 292,000 people, had an average per-capita income of \$20,600 in 1984.

Switzerland was third with average earnings of \$15,990 for its 6,572,000 citizens and the United States fourth with \$15,490.

The bank did not estimate the average income of 275 million citizens in the Soviet Union, China,

with an estimated population of 1,037 billion, was among the poorest countries with average per-capita income of \$310 a year. An estimated 317 million people live in countries — mostly African — where the average income has declined over the past 10 years.

Average incomes also declined over the decade in Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, Jamaica, Bolivia, El Salvador and Papua-New Guinea. The biggest decline — five per cent a year — was in Nicaragua.

The poorest country listed was the Central African Republic, where the 2.5 million people earned an average of \$270 in 1984.

In addition to population and income, the Atlas deals with life expectancy, rates of children's death and schooling.

## Prominent banker urges stabilised exchange rates

BOSTON (AP) — The Head of the West German central bank said Monday that the major industrialised nations should move to stabilise currency exchange rates because volatility hurts industries that rely on imports and exports.

"I think we should aim for at least some period of time for stabilisation and consolidation of the exchange rates we have, more or less, plus or minus," Mr. Karl Otto Poehl, president of the Deutsche Bundesbank, said in response to questions at a briefing during the International Monetary Conference.

At the same time, Mr. Poehl said he did not advocate establishment of a system of fixed exchange rates.

The U.S. dollar has fallen by about 30 per cent against most major foreign currencies in the past year, partly because of concerted efforts by industrialised nations to drive down its value to help trim the U.S. trade deficit. A weaker dollar makes imports more expensive in this country.

But in countries such as Japan — where the dollar recently fell to post-war lows against the yen —

some government and corporate officials have called for an end to the dollar's drop, which they say has had dire economic consequences for many Japanese companies that export to the U.S. market.

"I think we need some little pause," Mr. Poehl said. "And I would very much appreciate it if we could find some ways to coordinate our efforts to stabilise rates."

Noting the sharp fluctuations of the dollar against foreign currencies during the past several months, Mr. Poehl said such volatility made "no economic sense."

Mr. Poehl also said stabilisation might be fostered by central bank intervention in the currency markets "from time to time when helpful."

The annual conference brings the bankers together with government finance officials from 22

nations to confer on issues facing the world economy, particularly with regard to international banking.

Other notable speakers included Mr. Martin Feldstein, former chairman of the U.S. president's Council of Economic Advisers, who said the dollar would have to fall substantially lower against key foreign currencies to help ease the massive U.S. trade deficit.

Mr. Feldstein noted the dollar's drop over the past year was a key factor in the decline of the trade deficit during April, adding that further narrowing of the imbalance "can now be confidently predicted for the months ahead."

U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, told the 200 international bankers at the conference that trading partners must avoid protectionist acts in response to trade disputes.

Mr. Yeutter said he had just met with 20 foreign trade ministers in Seoul, South Korea, and that they made progress toward convening a new round of talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

## IMF reports smallest price rises in 18 years for industrial nations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported Monday that price rises last winter for consumers in 12 industrial countries were the smallest since 1967.

The increases averaged an annual rate of 3.2 per cent in the first quarter of 1986, compared with four per cent for the fall quarter of last year and 4.2 per cent for the whole of 1985, the IMF said.

West Germany did best in the first quarter, bringing inflation down to 0.7 per cent, from 1.8 per cent last fall. For the month of April the German figure was even lower: 0.2 per cent.

Japan was down to 1.4 per cent

from two per cent the latter part of 1985.

The United States reported 3.1 per cent, down from 3.5; France 3.7, down from 4.8 and Britain 4.9, down from 5.5.

The fund's monthly IMF Memorandum called reductions of the annual rate especially sharp in Denmark, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Only in Norway and Spain were increases reported: Prices in Spain rose to an annual rate of 8.9 per cent during the winter from 8.2 per cent in the fall. The Norwegian increase was small: 2.5 per cent from 5.7.

Inflation remained much higher

in less developed countries. Too few had come up with figures for March to enable the fund to strike an average for the first quarter, but there was a clear downward trend.

The average increase in consumer prices last year in 110 poorer countries was 49.6 per cent. By February it was 45 per cent.

Botswana, which leads the world in the rate, had increases at the rate of 2,356 per cent a year in February, down from a 20,073 per cent annual rate last summer.

Some larger Latin American countries also reported reductions.

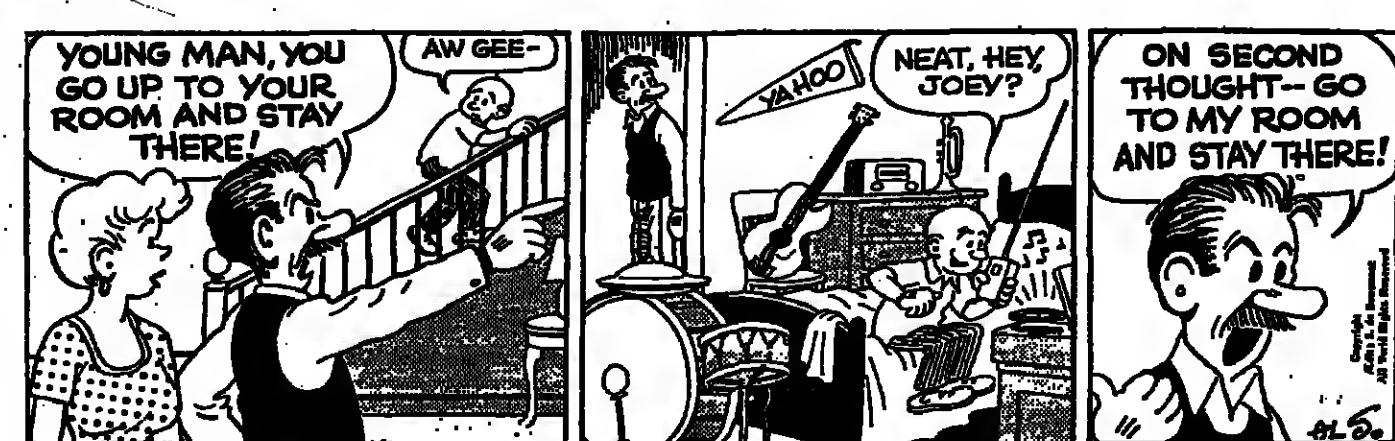
## Dubai bank reports \$25m loss in 1985

ABU DHABI, UAE (AP) — The Dubai-based Middle East Bank, into which the Dubai government recently injected new funds, has reported a loss of 93.1 million dirhams (\$25 million) for 1985. The loss followed 1984 profits of 17.5 million dirhams (\$4.7 million). It was the biggest 1985 loss announced by a bank in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the first by a locally-incorporated bank. Most of the 29 foreign banks operating in the UAE reported sharp falls in their 1985 balance sheets, but while another 18 locally-incorporated banks reported dwindling profits, the Middle East Bank was the only one to record losses. The Dubai government owns 20 per cent of the bank whose capital had reached 300 million dirhams.

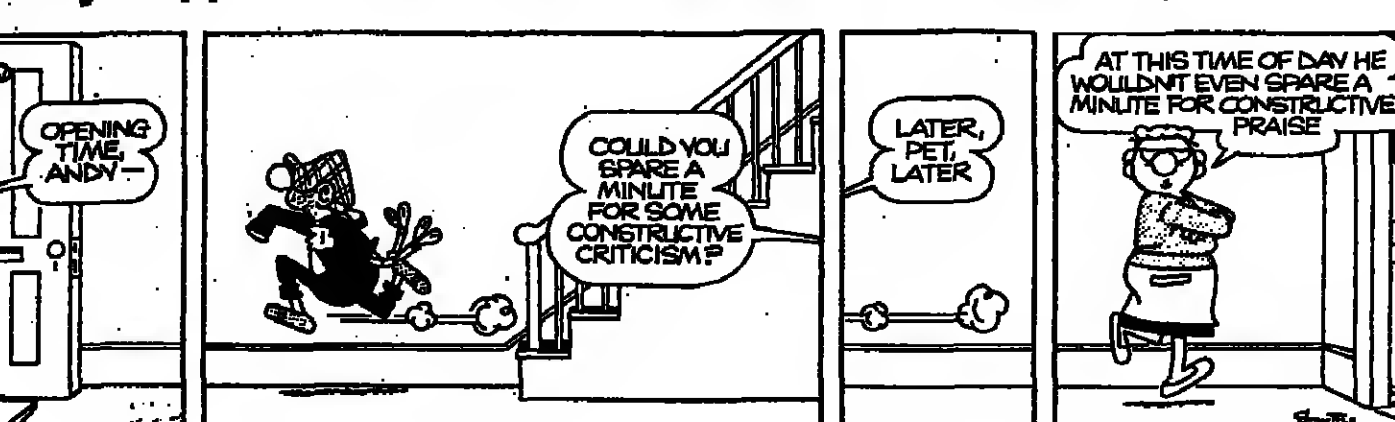
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp

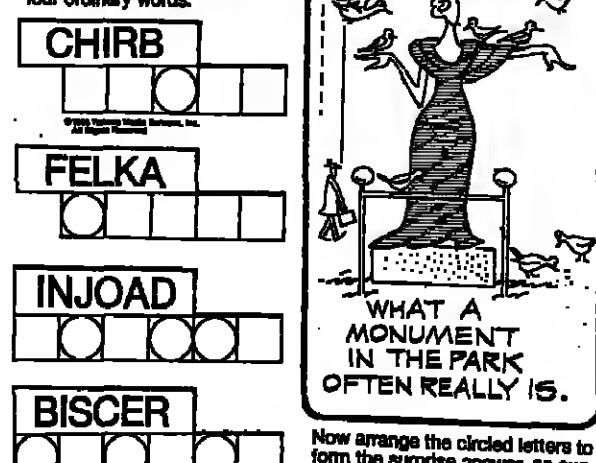


## THE BETTER HALF



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: CHIRB FELKA INJOAD BISCEP

Yesterday's Jumbles: MAUVE NOVEL TRIBAL VESTRY

Answer: Could be another name for orosion—SHORE LEAVE



# Chernobyl death toll hits 25

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The death toll from the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident has risen to 25, a senior Soviet scientist said Tuesday.

Yevgeny Chazov, who is also a deputy health minister, told a news conference another 299 people were suffering from acute radiation sickness.

"I can say today that 23 people have died, not including the two who died in the initial blast," Dr. Chazov said.

Robert Gale, a U.S. specialist in bone marrow transplants who has been treating victims of the April 26 accident, put the total death toll last week at 23 people.

Dr. Chazov is co-leader of a group called International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which won the Nobel Peace Prize last year.

"The Chernobyl tragedy has intensified our movement," he said.

Dr. Chazov said the group had

decided at a meeting in Cologne, West Germany, last week not to take any stance on the question of nuclear energy.

The Soviet authorities, faced with increasing costs in extracting other resources such as oil and coal, have pledged to continue developing nuclear power.

The Soviet Armed Forces newspaper said Tuesday a number of soldiers involved in rescue work at the stricken reactor in the Ukraine were being treated at a military hospital in Kiev.

The report in Krasnaya Zvezda (red star) did not say how many soldiers were ill but indicated that they were suffering from the effects of radiation. The daily added that none of the soldiers was in a serious condition.

Meanwhile Pravda criticised

officials in Pripyat, the town closest to the site of the April 26 accident, for not providing adequate accommodation for people still working at the stricken nuclear plant. Most had now been moved to temporary shelter on pleasure cruises on the nearby Pripyat River.

But a little farther away, the town of Chernobyl itself and other areas were returning to normal after the disaster, Pravda said. A cinema and a theatre had reopened and a press centre had been established to give details of rescue work to Soviet journalists. Traffic was also building up again in the town.

Pravda also published a poem by popular poet Andrei Voznesensky, called "thoughts of Chernobyl" and focusing on what it called the heroic rescue workers. The poem referred to U.S. bone marrow specialist Robert Gale, who came to Moscow to operate on some of the victims, as "a con-

temporary of Hiroshima."

Meanwhile the Communist Party newspaper Pravda reported Tuesday that the first few hundred of 92,000 people evacuated from around the Chernobyl plant will return home soon. But conditions for the remaining evacuees are "far from desirable."

Pravda also made clear that the estimated 25,000 people who lived in the town of Pripyat, adjoining the Chernobyl power plant, will not be home before fall at earliest.

The report also said that evacuees faced long lines for food and other necessities, and printed a long list of complaints about the failings of the Ministry of Energy to improve their living conditions.

Authorities decided that the first 260 families from the hamlets of Glinka, Zamoshche and Bychka within a 30-kilometre danger zone around the plant could return home soon, Pravda said.

## Reagan to get shuttle disaster report

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A commission investigating the Challenger shuttle explosion will give President Ronald Reagan a report on Friday calling for design changes and is expected to be severely critical of space agency management.

Although the report will not be made public until next Monday, commission, space agency and engineering sources have given a general outline of its findings.

CBS Television quoted a panel member Monday night as saying: "This accident was preventable. The safeguards were there. If they had been utilised we would not have had this tragedy."

An administration official told CBS the report would be devastating to NASA management.

The report is expected to repeat criticism of decision-making by the U.S. space agency's top management, already voiced by commission members during public hearings, and recommend establishment of an independent safety panel.

The recommendations are expected to stress redesign of the re-

sable solid fuel booster rockets. A leaky O-ring, a giant rubbery washer used to seal the joints between booster rocket segments, has been blamed for the escape of burning fuel which led to the explosion which destroyed Challenger and killed its seven crew.

Sub-freezing temperatures at the time of the Jan. 28 launch were blamed for the O-ring failure.

NBC Nightly News, quoting people who have seen the report, said the commission discovered one segment in the faulty joint had been distorted in a previous launch.

During preparations for the ill-fated Challenger launch, it was fitted to the next segment so tightly that it could not move as it was designed to do under the stress of a launch, the network said.

Engineering tests carried out since the Challenger disaster under identical weather conditions also resulted in failure of the joint, industry sources have said.

The commission will recommend the joint between the rocket segments be redesigned to

be insensitive to temperature, water, ice, and stresses in manufacturing and installation. Sources close to the commission said.

A putty-like substance, designed to seal any slippage between the O-rings and the metal segments, had never behaved consistently, evidence before the commission also showed.

NBC said the report would also recommend testing the rockets vertically, rather than on a flat bed which did not adequately reflect the stresses of a launch firing.

Meanwhile U.S. government and industry sources said Monday that Allan McDonald, the industry engineer who opposed launching the shuttle Challenger and was reassigned after testifying about his objections, is expected to be put in charge of a task force that will redesign the shuttle booster rocket.

McDonald's new responsibilities are expected to be announced formally within a few days by his employer, Morton Thiokol Inc., according to the sources, who asked not to be identified.

## Fire guts Murdoch newsprint warehouse

LONDON (AP) — A huge fire, said by London Fire Brigade to be one of the biggest in the capital in recent years, Monday night gutted a warehouse containing 20,000 tons of newsprint owned by newspaper publisher Rupert Murdoch.

The British domestic news agency Press Association said police are believed to be working on the theory the blaze was started by firebombers. Murdoch is involved in an 18-week-old trade union dispute with 5,500 sacked newspaper production workers.

"The circumstances of this fire are very suspicious and are being investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department," police inspector Roland Lamb told reporters.

The fire at the one-story warehouse at Deptford in the south east London docks area sent flames roaring 60 metres into the sky and could be seen for miles around. About 180 firemen from all over London fought the blaze.

The warehouse is owned by Convoys (London Wharf) Ltd., a subsidiary of Murdoch's News International group.

Convoys supplies newsprint for Murdoch's four British newspapers — The London Times, the Tabloid Sun and two weekly newspapers, the Sunday Times and the News of the World — which are involved in the dispute. The firm also supplies newsprint for non-Murdoch newspapers around the country.

There were no reports of casualties in the fire and production of Tuesday's editions of Murdoch's papers was not affected.

Australian-born Murdoch took up U.S. citizenship last year. His international news empire includes television stations and newspapers in the United States and newspapers in Australia.

He fired the 5,500 London newspaper production workers on Jan. 25 after they went on strike in a dispute over the introduction of computerised newspaper technology. National newspaper production in Britain has been plagued for many years by union disputes, strikes, wildcat stoppages and resistance to modern technology.

At the same time he sacked the 5,500, he moved production of the Times and the other three titles from central London to his high-technology newspaper plant at Wapping in East London staffed by specially trained members of the Electricians' Union.

## Waldheim victory expected despite Nazi allegations

VIENNA (R) — As the Austrian presidential race enters its final days, Kurt Waldheim looks the likely winner despite persistent allegations that he was a Nazi war criminal.

Dr. Waldheim, former United Nations secretary-general and the conservative candidate who just missed a first round victory on May 4, is favoured in most opinion polls to beat his Socialist opponent Kurt Steyer in the June 8 run-off.

The race for the largely ceremonial presidency will be remembered as one of the ugliest chapters in Austria's postwar history. It has reopened old wounds, polarised generations, and rocked domestic politics.

But so clear is Dr. Waldheim's lead that the independent magazine Basta commented that it would take a "political earthquake" for Mr. Steyer to succeed President Rudolf Kirchschläger next month.

It also speculated that Mr. Steyer's expected loss would force the Socialist-led coalition government of Chancellor Fred Sinowatz to call an early general election, not due until next April.

Allegations by the World Jew-

## Racist attacks reportedly increasing in U.K.

LONDON (AP) — Racist attacks, including bombings and arson, have become daily reality for blacks and Asians in Britain, says a report published Tuesday by an independent research group.

It claims police are slow to respond to racial incidents, reluctant to accept evidence of racist motives, frequently hostile to victims and often unwilling to prosecute attackers.

The report, by the liberal Runnymede Trust which is respected for its studies on racial problems in Britain, also says that extreme right-wing groups, spurred by the electorate, are increasingly turning to terrorist tactics.

The report says it measures the spread of racism by monitoring the number of bombings and arson attacks on black and Asian homes and workplaces.

"The majority of such attacks involve home-made petrol (gasoline) bombs or simply spraying premises with inflammable liquid and igniting it, but attacks have also involved explosions as distinct from fires," it says.

For example, on Oct. 30, 1984, a Muslim butchery in East London was destroyed by a bomb blast during the night.

In Shrewsbury, in late 1984, an Asian shopkeeper was severely burned when his van exploded as he turned the ignition.

The report says: "Such attacks, involving relatively sophisticated devices and a resort to explosives, marked a significant turn in the upward spiral of racial violence in Britain."

The report lists 62 racist killings in Britain between 1970 and 1985, and says: "Few areas in Britain can now be regarded as completely safe for black residents."

The report claims that a link between right-wing groups like the National Front and the British Movement, and racial and political violence, has been well established.

## Rebels accept Duarte invitation for talks

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Salvadoran rebel leader Guillermo Ungo has said he received "favourably and in positive terms" an invitation by President Jose Napoleon Duarte for a third round of dialogue aimed at ending El Salvador's six-year-old civil war.

In a telephone interview from Panama, Ungo said the rebels had agreed to attend the first dialogue in 18 months between the two sides. But he labelled Mr. Duarte's decision to hold the talks "a recourse for propaganda."

Mr. Duarte announced in a speech on Sunday, marking his second anniversary in office, that the dialogue would take place in El Salvador in late July or August.

Political observers here viewed the move as an attempt by Mr. Duarte's Christian Democratic Party to reduce political pressures brought on by the nation's troubled economy and an unpopular economic austerity programme Mr. Duarte introduced last January.

The offer represented a reversal by Mr. Duarte from a regional peace plan he introduced in March linking any such dialogue to simultaneous

## Solidarity leader could face up to 10 years in jail

WARSAW (R) — Underground Solidarity leader Zbigniew Bujak, who was captured last week after more than four years in hiding, has been charged with preparing to overthrow the state, the Polish government said Tuesday.

"The maximum penalty is 10 years in prison," government spokesman Jerzy Urban told reporters.

Mr. Bujak, who led Solidarity's secret provisional coordinating committee (TKK) was arrested early on May 31 in Warsaw with other people, including leading opposition activists Konrad Bielinski and Ewa Kulik, Urban said.

He declined to say how many opposition activists were arrested in total on that day.

A search of Mr. Bujak's clandestine flat yielded documents linking the TKK with "subversive

sources in the West," the spokesman said.

Western reporters on Tuesday received a statement by the two remaining named TKK members still in hiding which said Mr. Bujak's arrest was a severe blow, but opposition underground activities would continue.

"Bujak has joined the ranks of prisoners of conscience. We will fight for his freedom," the statement said. Bujak was the last founding member of Solidarity's Provisional Coordinating Committee (TKK).

Maszyński and Gorny, the only remaining named TKK members, described him as a legendary leader. His activities were characterised by great bravery and a strong belief in Solidarity's mission. "Zbigniew became its personification," the statement said.

## Jayewardene to discuss crisis with opposition

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene is to call a conference of main political parties, including the opposition, to discuss the island's worsening ethnic crisis, authoritative political sources said Tuesday.

They said the move follows an opposition demand for an explanation of the steps taken by the government to end the bloody conflict between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

In the last month 130 have been killed in Tamil guerrilla attacks across the island including bomb blasts in Colombo and its suburbs last weekend.

A high political source told Reuters the policy-making committee of the ruling United National Party, chaired by Mr. Jayewardene, Monday night discussed the demand by the opposition Sri Lanka Mahajana Pakshaya (SLMP) — people's party — for an all-party conference.

The committee, which includes several ministers, felt such a conference would be useful and the president will convene one soon," the source said.

The left wing SLMP said in a letter to Mr. Jayewardene: "It is the paramount duty of the gov-

ernment to take the people into confidence and make a genuine disclosure of the steps taken so far by the government along with the Indian government and other sections in an attempt to solve the ethnic issue."

The sources said Mr. Jayewardene was expected to explain the present security situation in Sri Lanka and proposals made by the government to India for a political solution. They said India was expected to resume its efforts to help find a peaceful solution soon.

Indian High Commission (embassy) sources said last week that mediation in the conflict by India was in "a state of suspension."

Mr. Jayewardene has said that while the government has to counter guerrilla attacks militarily it wants to find a political solution to the ethnic troubles.

The president has rejected Tamil demands for a separate state or a merger of northern and eastern provinces where most Tamils live.

He has proposed resolving the issue by granting a measure of autonomy to the two provinces through a system of provincial councils.

## Baby falls 17 stories and survives

NEW YORK (AP) — A baby plunged 17 stories from a window ledge Monday but survived after his fall was broken by an apple tree, police said. Sae Yung Kim, aged 11 months, was hospitalised in guarded condition with three broken ribs, a possible collarbone fracture, a bump on the head and a scratch on the cheek. The infant, whose mother was sewing in another room, climbed onto a couch, then crawled onto the window onto the sleeve of an air conditioner, said officer Vincent Jones. The baby's fall was broken by a limb, about 15 centimetres in diameter, of an apple tree that was two to three metres, he said. The baby's mother went to find him, looked out the window and realised something had happened when she saw a crowd on the street below, he said.

## Anglers' record boast has a catch to it

LONDON (R) — Two anglers have boasted of a record catch with rod and line of 1,600 rainbow trout in 13 hours from a north England river — but there's a catch to their claim. There is no place for the feat in the record books, according to the newspaper Tuesday, because their haul had escaped from a fish farm. "It sounds incredible, but it is perfectly feasible," said fisheries expert Dr. John Shillock. "These fish are used to seeing men around and have no natural cunning. They associate the sight of humans with being fed." "Catching them would have been easier than shooting them in a barrel." He said authorities were trying to establish how the fish came to be caught on the West Beck, a stream which runs into the river Hull in north east England.

## Night nurse buries patients by day

LONDON (R) — When night nurse Daphne Connell goes off duty, she starts her day job — as an undertaker. She says the funeral business is a natural progression from her nursing at Ham Green Hospital near the western England city of Bristol. "They are both part of the caring profession," Sister Connell, 47, told reporters. She runs the undertaking business with her husband, Peter. "Sometimes we have buried patients I have nursed at the hospital. I don't feel odd about it at all and the patient has no inkling of it while they're dying," she said.

## Floating hydro-electric power station invented

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav inventor Radoljub Simovic, 54, has developed a floating hydro-electric power station he hopes will help solve future energy shortages, the Belgrade newspaper Politika Ekspres said. The station can be easily dismantled and moved and operates on only a small water current, without the need for tonnes of concrete, storage lakes and lockgates of conventional hydro-electric dams. It also leaves rivers open to navigation, the newspaper said. In Yugoslavia, where hydro-electric stations often seize up in dry weather due to lack of water to drive the generators, the device could sell well. Simovic's floating watermill operates on a waterwheel principle and generates power ranging from one kilowatt to 200 megawatts depending on the size and speed of the river.

## Avoid alcohol, pork and tobacco and live 124 years

BELGRADE (R) — Don't drink alcohol, smoke or eat pork and you may live as long as Ilija Lalic, who died last week in Yugoslavia's Kosovo region, aged 124, the Belgrade newspaper Vecernje Novosti said. Lalic, who never saw the doctor, always began his day with Georgian green tea, took the occasional glass of milk, piece of cheese or sausage, and only drank coffee in late afternoon. The paper said he survived 16 winters in the Balkan wars and World Wars I and II, married twice, fathered four children and tilled the land until the last days of his life. It said he moved a meadow three days before he died, in Stara Gradiska village. His neighbours described Lalic as a peaceful man who had never been known to pick a fight, Vecernje Novosti said.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### A SPOT TOO MUCH

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 10876  
♥ K1052  
♦ 5  
♣ 1096

**WEST**  
♠ KQ5  
♥ A87  
♦ 5  
♣ JQ7543

**EAST**  
♠ 32  
♥ J9643  
♦ A K73  
♣ A2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A94  
♥ Q  
♦ QJ108642  
♣ K8

The bidding:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠  
2 ♠ Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

Here's another hand from the recent Summer North America Championships in Las Vegas. It appeals to us even though the contract was only a modest two diamonds doubled. The declarer was Nancy Crover of Ellicott City, Md.

We were not told the meaning of West's double (if two diamonds). Obviously, it must have been intended to show support for the other suits, and our sympathy goes to East who cannot be blamed for converting it to penalties.

West led the queen of clubs. East

won the ace and returned the suit to declarer's king. It seemed certain that declarer would have to lose at least two spade tricks, two trumps, a heart and the club. However, a slight misdeal by East allowed declarer to come home in spectacular fashion.

At trick three declarer led the queen of hearts. West won the ace and continued with a third club, and East misjudged when he elected to stuff a spade as declarer carefully ruffed with the six. The queen of diamonds went to the king, and East exited with the ace. Now East deeply regretted having parted with a spade — he was left with only red cards.

He tried to avoid the end play by exiting with his seven of diamonds. Declarer won the two and threw West back on lead with her carefully preserved deuce of trumps to East's three.

Now East was forced to lead a heart from his jack into dummy's K-10 tenace, and declarer's two spade losers went away. Declarer had traded a trump trick for two heart tricks and her contract — she lost only three trumps, a heart and the ace of clubs.

Pity poor East. His partner had opened the bidding and he took four tricks on defense, yet his side did not beat a two-level contract.